



Dance in the
Vampire Bund

NOZOMU TAMAKI

VOLUME 11

Tamaki Nozomu Presents Dance In The Vampire Bund 11

DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND

11

NOZOMU TAMAKI

Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non fashis

Ni-Smieus amicx sonc de mi no-s partis

Ni la gayfa crida que l'alba vi.

Oy Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba!

fan fost ve!

Please God, may this our
night not fail to be,
nor may my friend depart
away from me;
by watchman neither day
nor dawn be seen.

My God, alas!
For dawn is seen so soon!

Anonyme, Alba

Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non falhis
Ni-l mieus amicx lonc de mi no-s partis
Ni la gayta crida que l'alba vi. Oy
Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz
non falhis Ni-l mieus amicx
lonc de mi no-s partis Ni la
gayta crida que l'alba vi. Oy
Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba! tan
tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz
non falhis Ni-l mieus amicx
lonc de mi no-s partis Ni la
gayta crida que l'alba vi. Oy
Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba!
tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la
nueitz non falhis Ni-l
mieus amicx lonc de
mi no-s partis Ni la
gayta crida que l'alba
vi. Oy Dieus, oy Dieus,
de l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non
falhis Ni-l mieus amicx lonc de mi
no-s partis Ni la gayta crida que
l'alba vi. Oy Dieus, oy Dieus, de
l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non
falhis Ni-l mieus amicx lonc de mi
no-s partis Ni la gayta crida que
l'alba vi. Oy Dieus, oy Dieus, de
l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non
falhis Ni-l mieus amicx lonc de mi
no-s partis Ni la gayta crida que
l'alba vi. Oy Dieus, oy Dieus, de
l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non falhis
Ni-l mieus amicx lonc de mi no-s partis
Ni la gayta crida que l'alba vi. Oy
Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz
non falhis Ni-l mieus amicx
lonc de mi no-s partis Ni la
gayta crida que l'alba vi. Oy
Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba! tan
tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz
non falhis Ni-l mieus amicx
lonc de mi no-s partis Ni la
gayta crida que l'alba vi. Oy
Dieus, oy Dieus, de l'alba!
tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la
nueitz non falhis Ni-l
mieus amicx lonc de
mi no-s partis Ni la
gayta crida que l'alba
vi. Oy Dieus, oy Dieus,
de l'alba! tan tost ve!
Plagues a Dieu ja la nueitz non
falhis Ni-l mieus amicx lonc de mi
no-s partis Ni la gayta crida que

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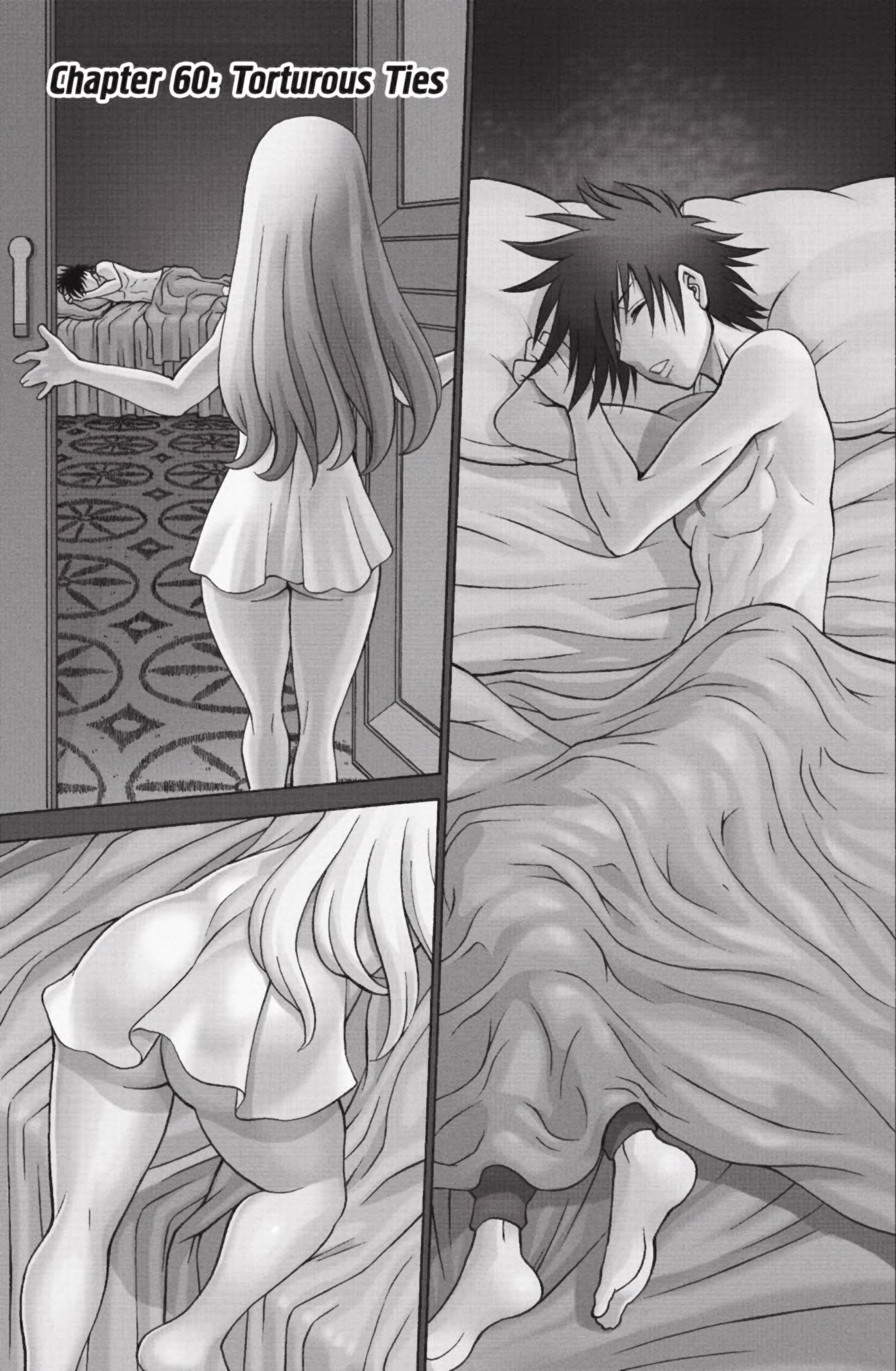
Special Issue: The Road to First Love

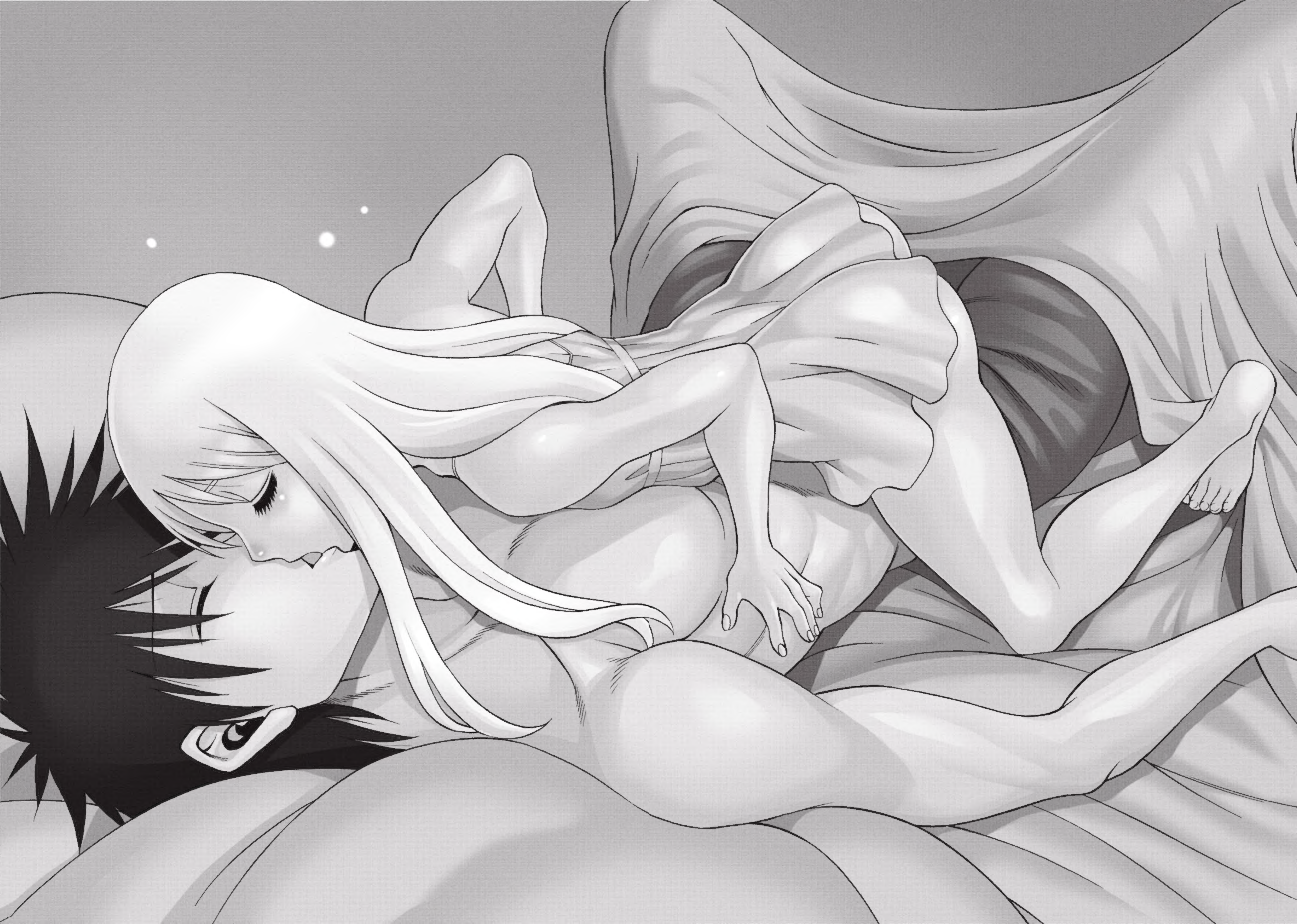
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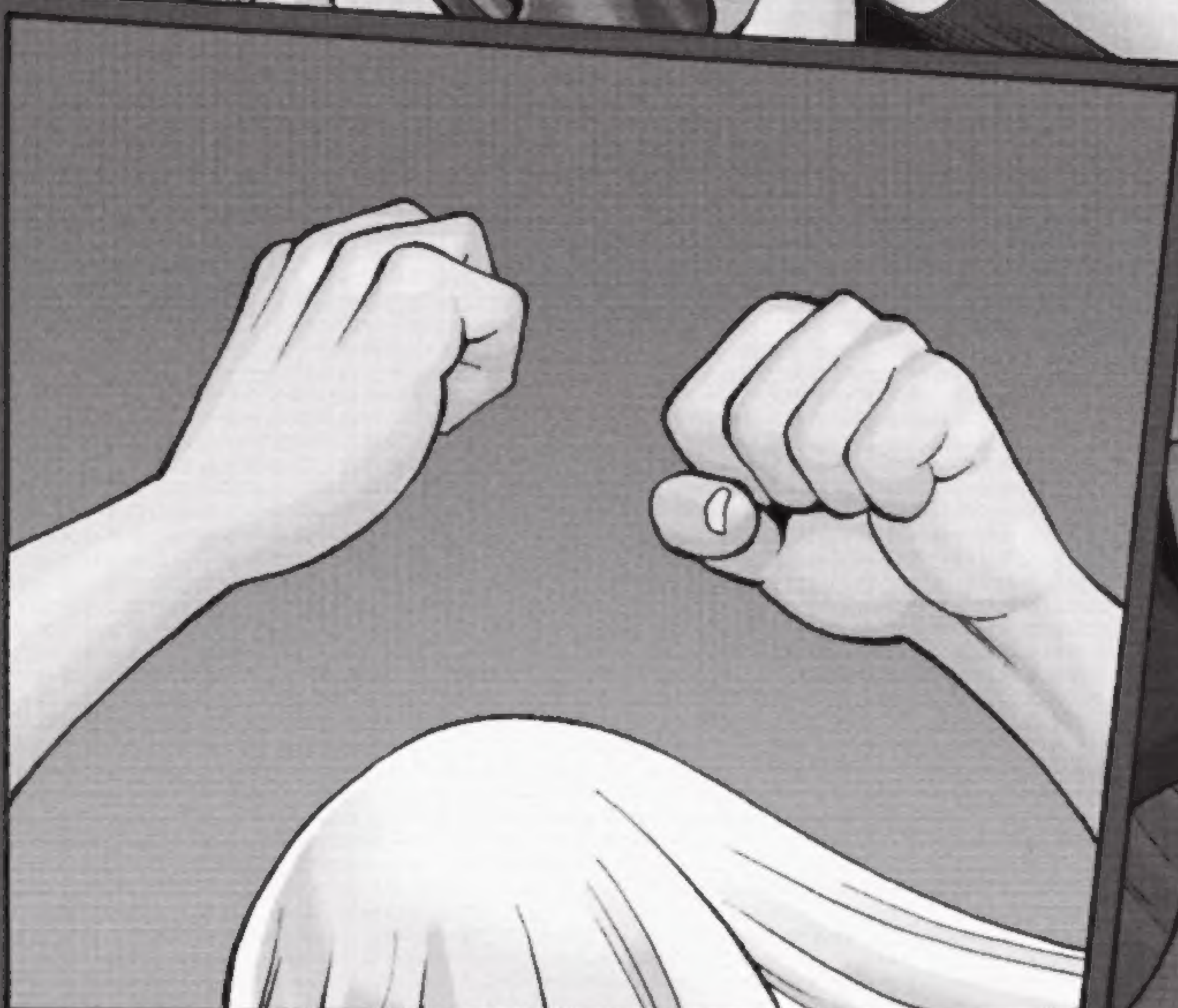
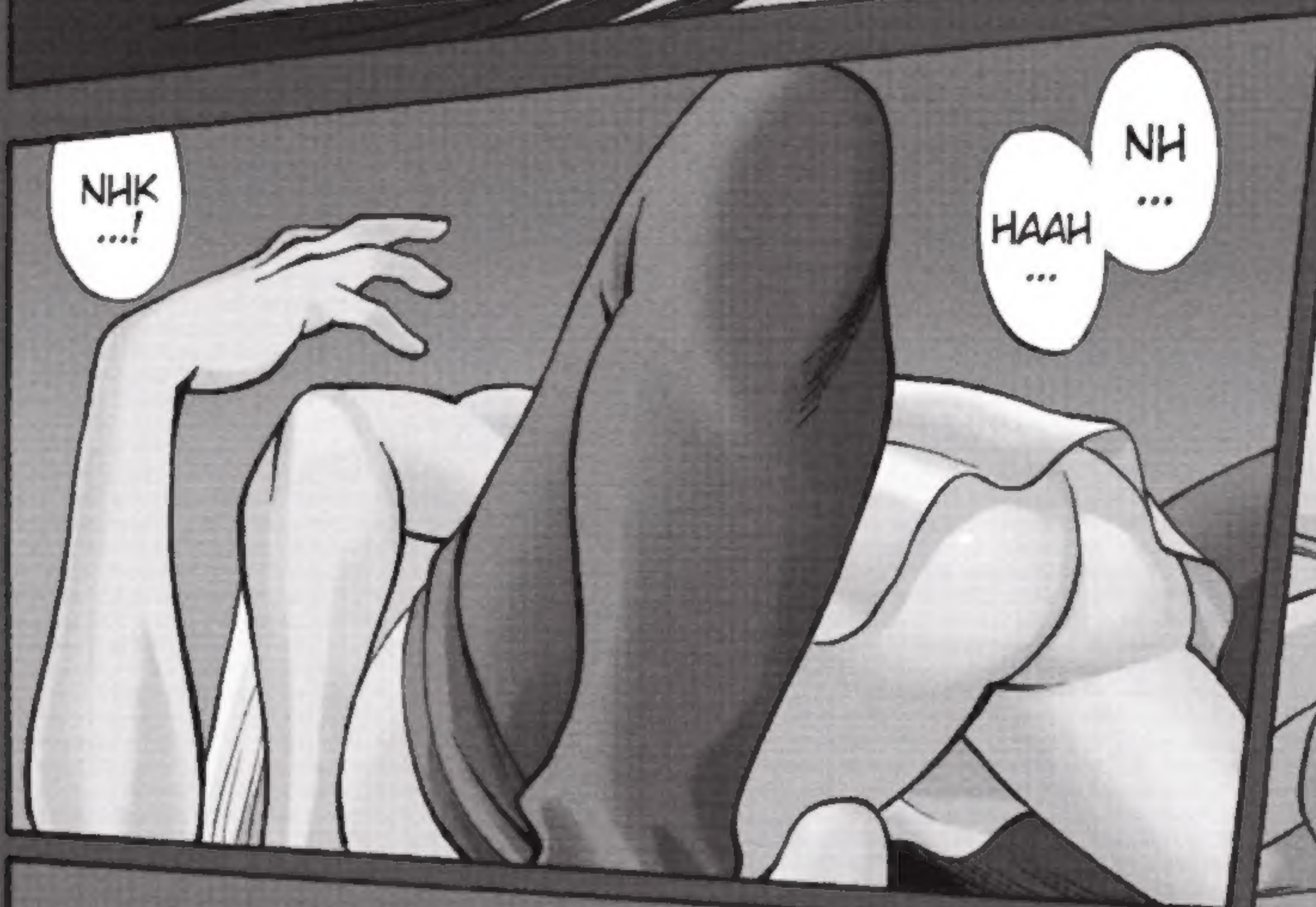
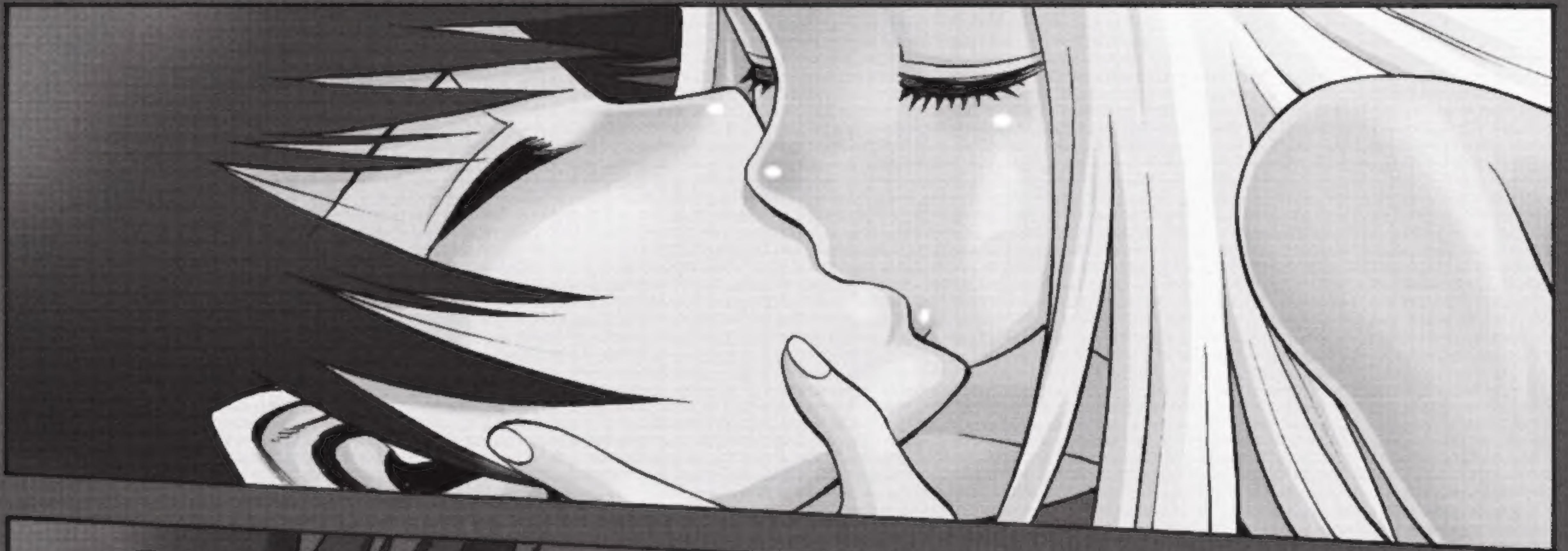
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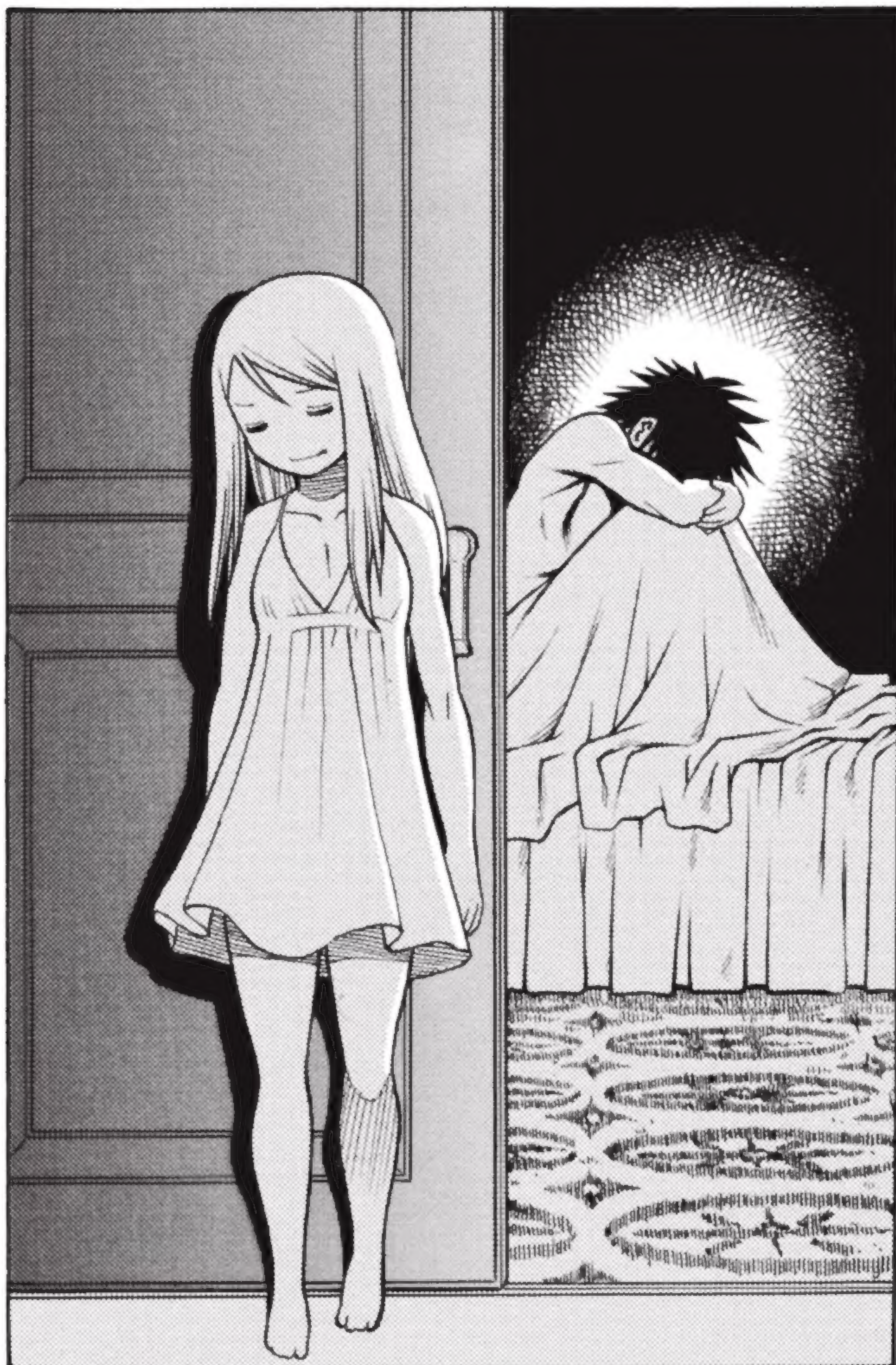
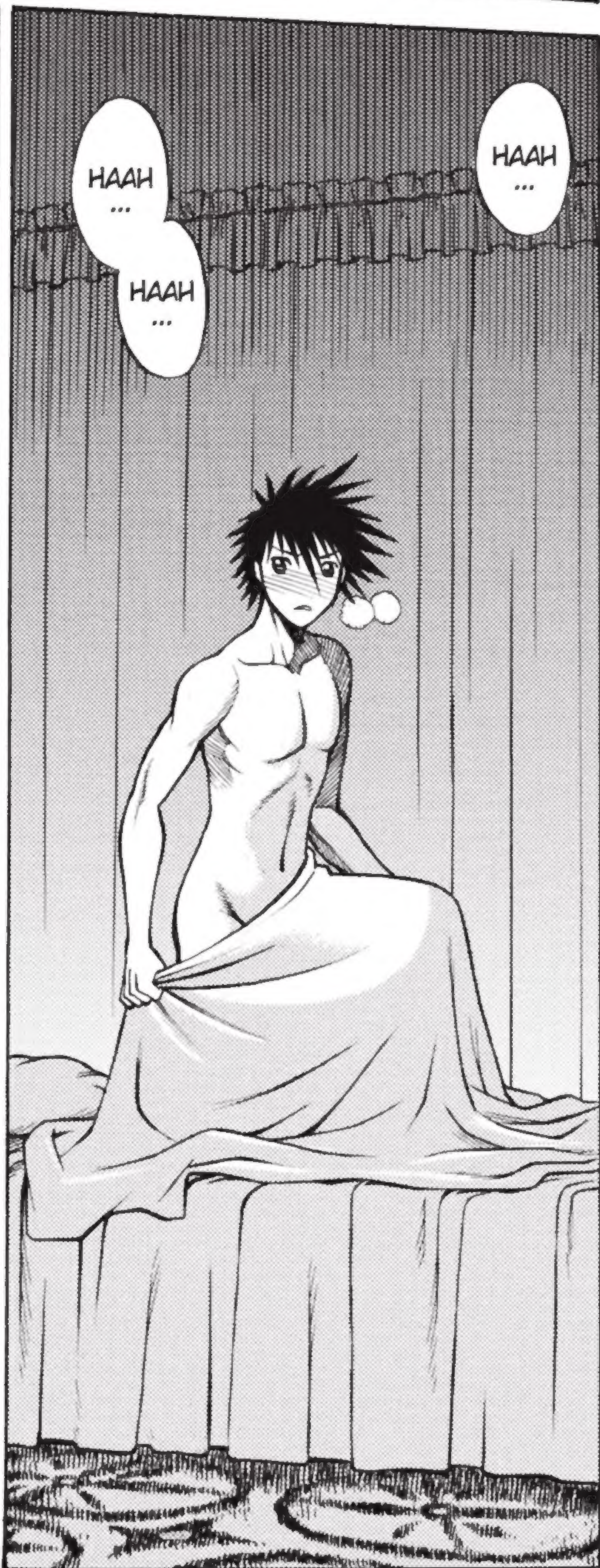
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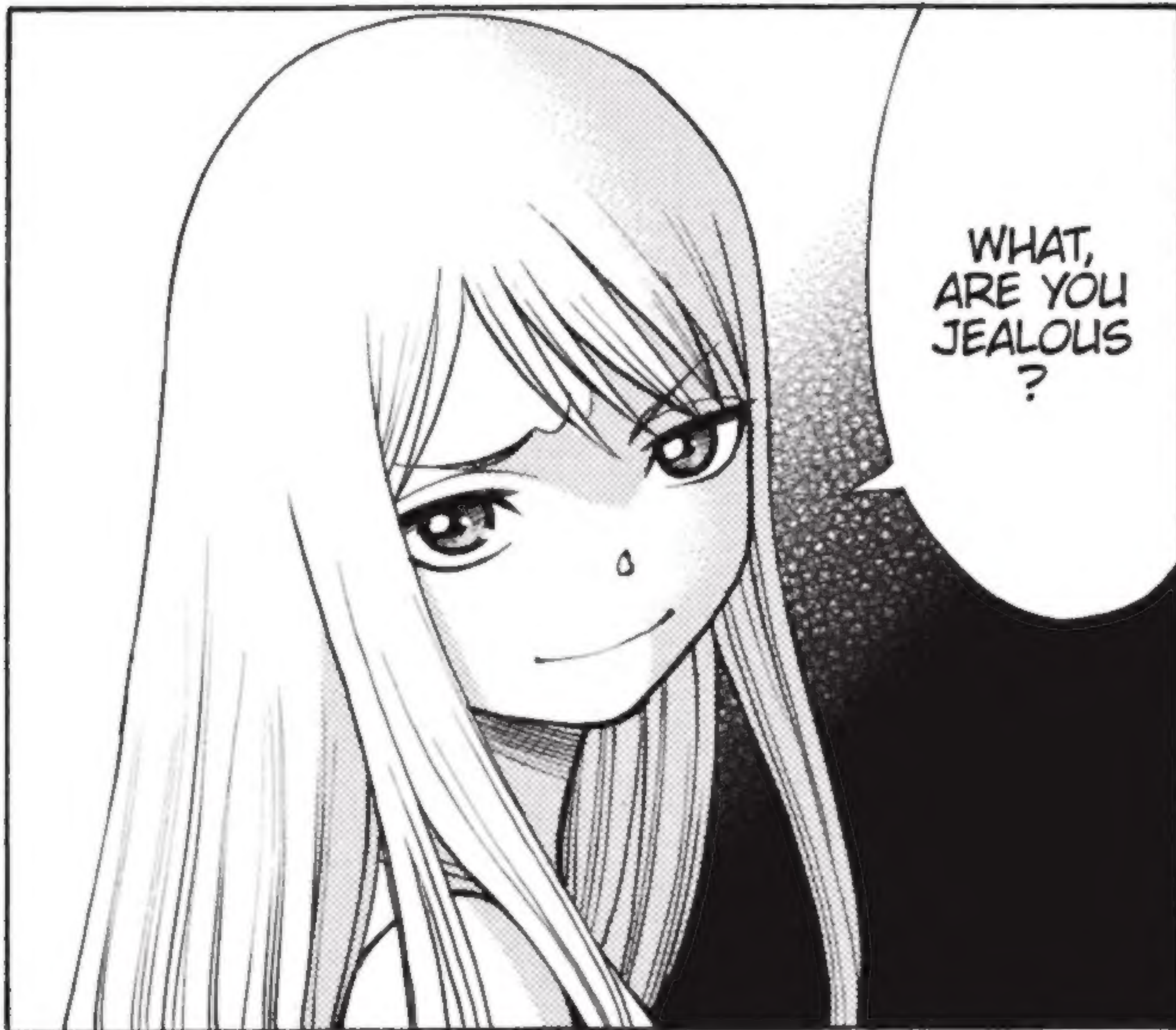
Chapter 60: Torturous Ties



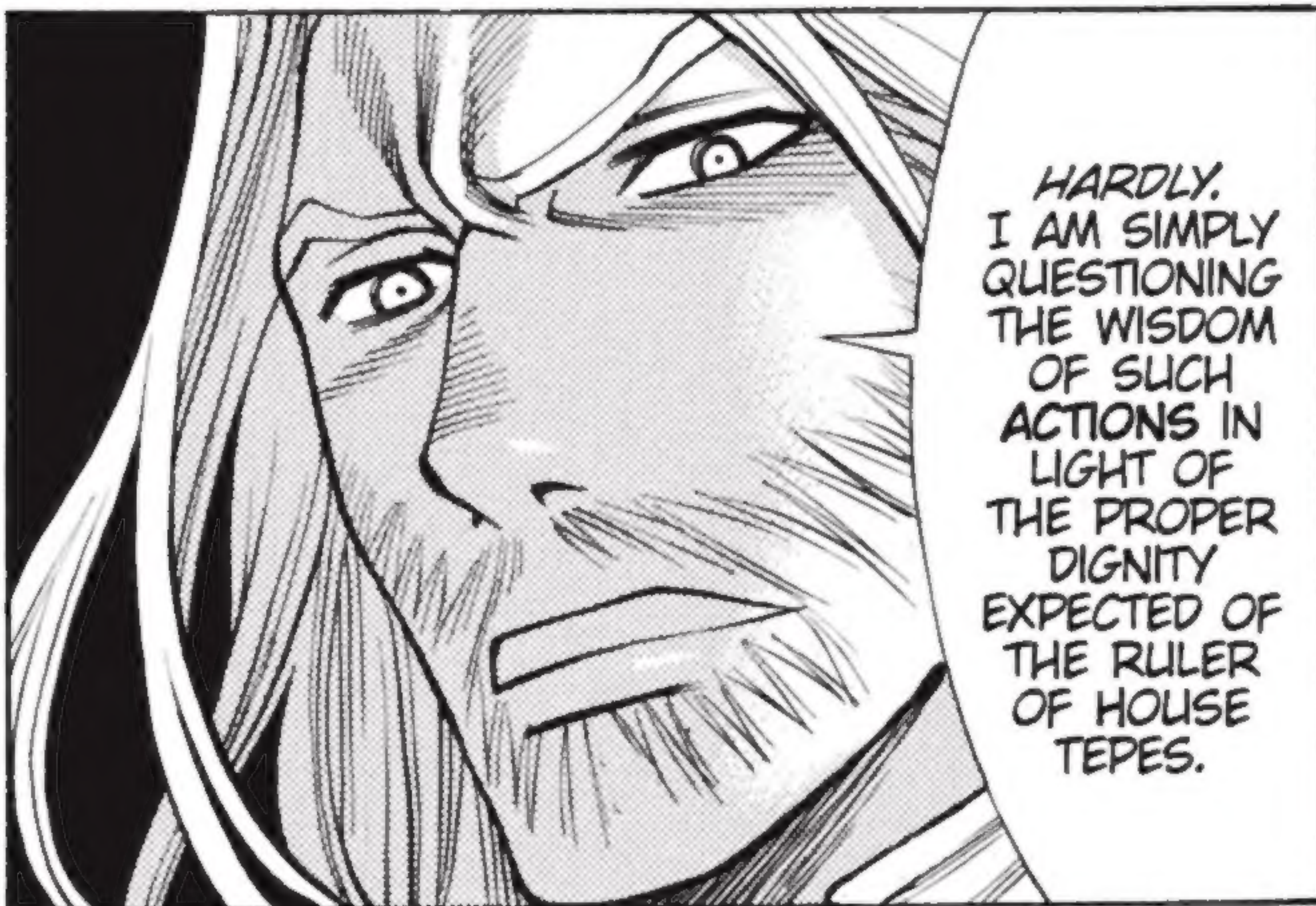




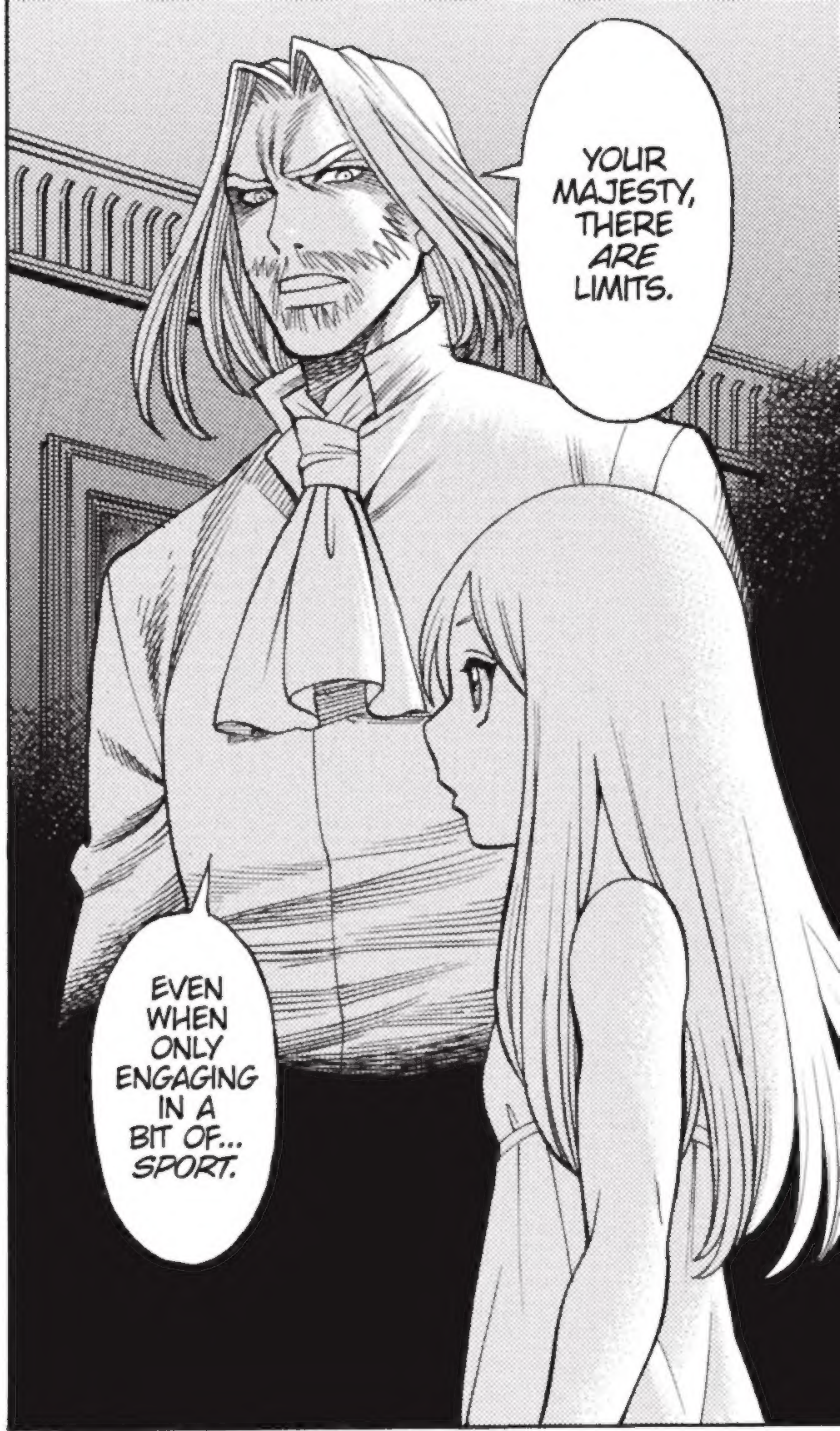




WHAT,
ARE YOU
JEALOUS
?



HARDLY.
I AM SIMPLY
QUESTIONING
THE WISDOM
OF SUCH
ACTIONS IN
LIGHT OF
THE PROPER
DIGNITY
EXPECTED OF
THE RULER
OF HOUSE
TEPES.



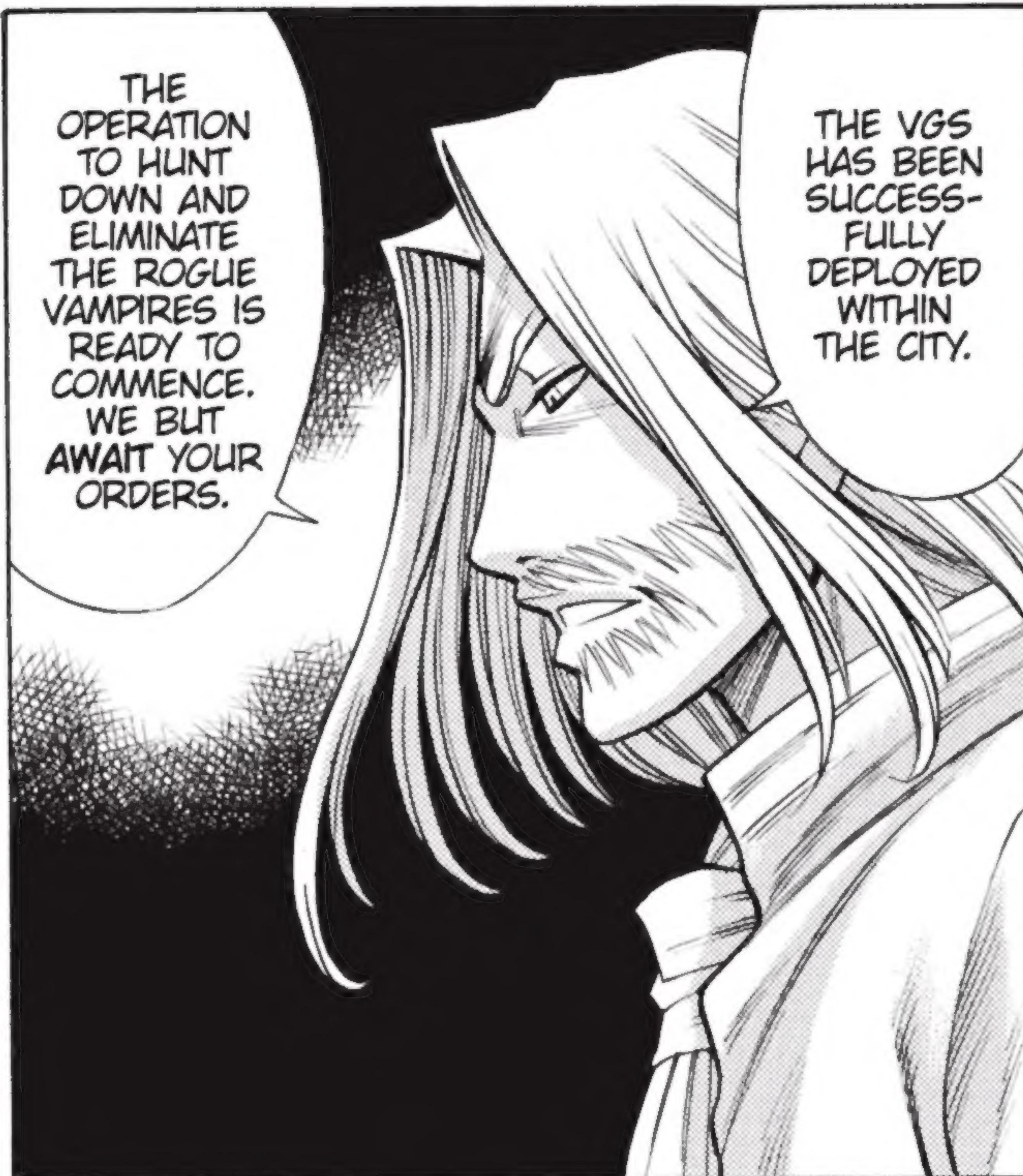
YOUR
MAJESTY,
THERE
ARE
LIMITS.

EVEN
WHEN
ONLY
ENGAGING
IN A
BIT OF...
SPORT.



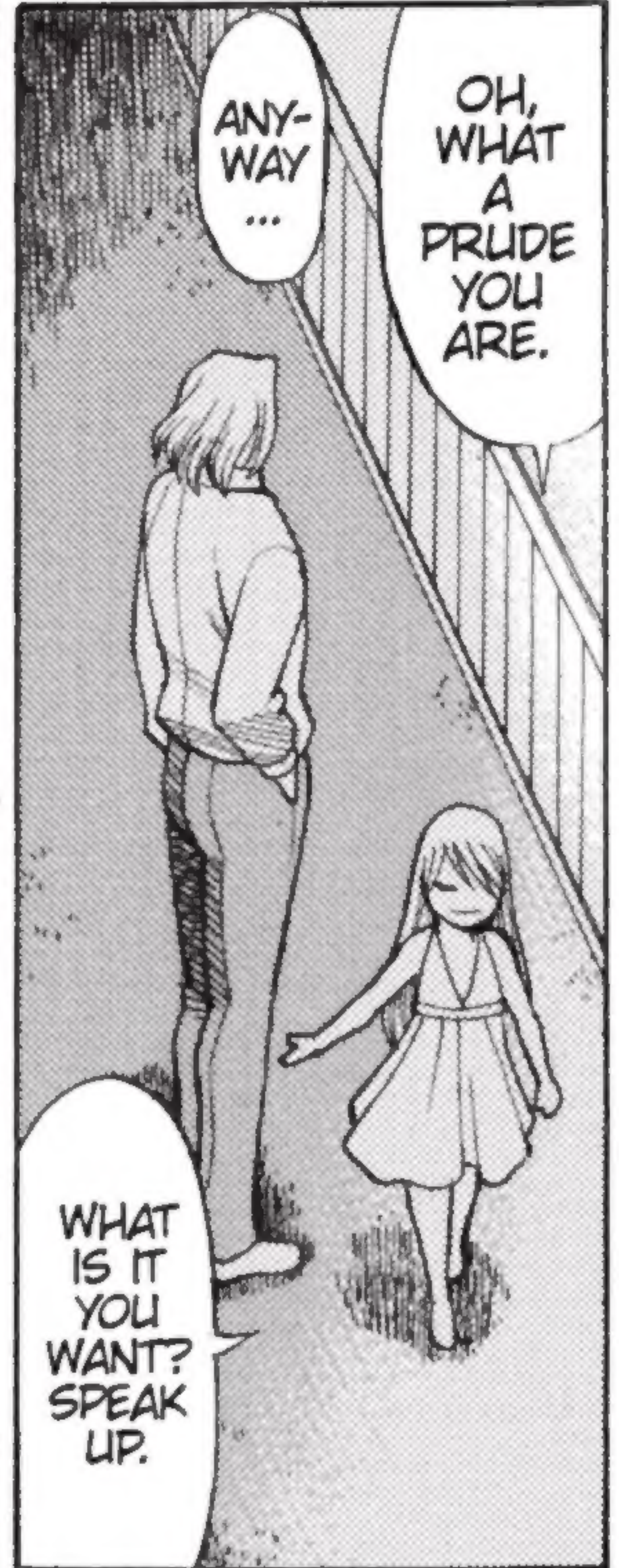
HEH...

HEH
HEH
HEH...



THE
OPERATION
TO HUNT
DOWN AND
ELIMINATE
THE ROGUE
VAMPIRES IS
READY TO
COMMENCE.
WE BUT
AWAIT YOUR
ORDERS.

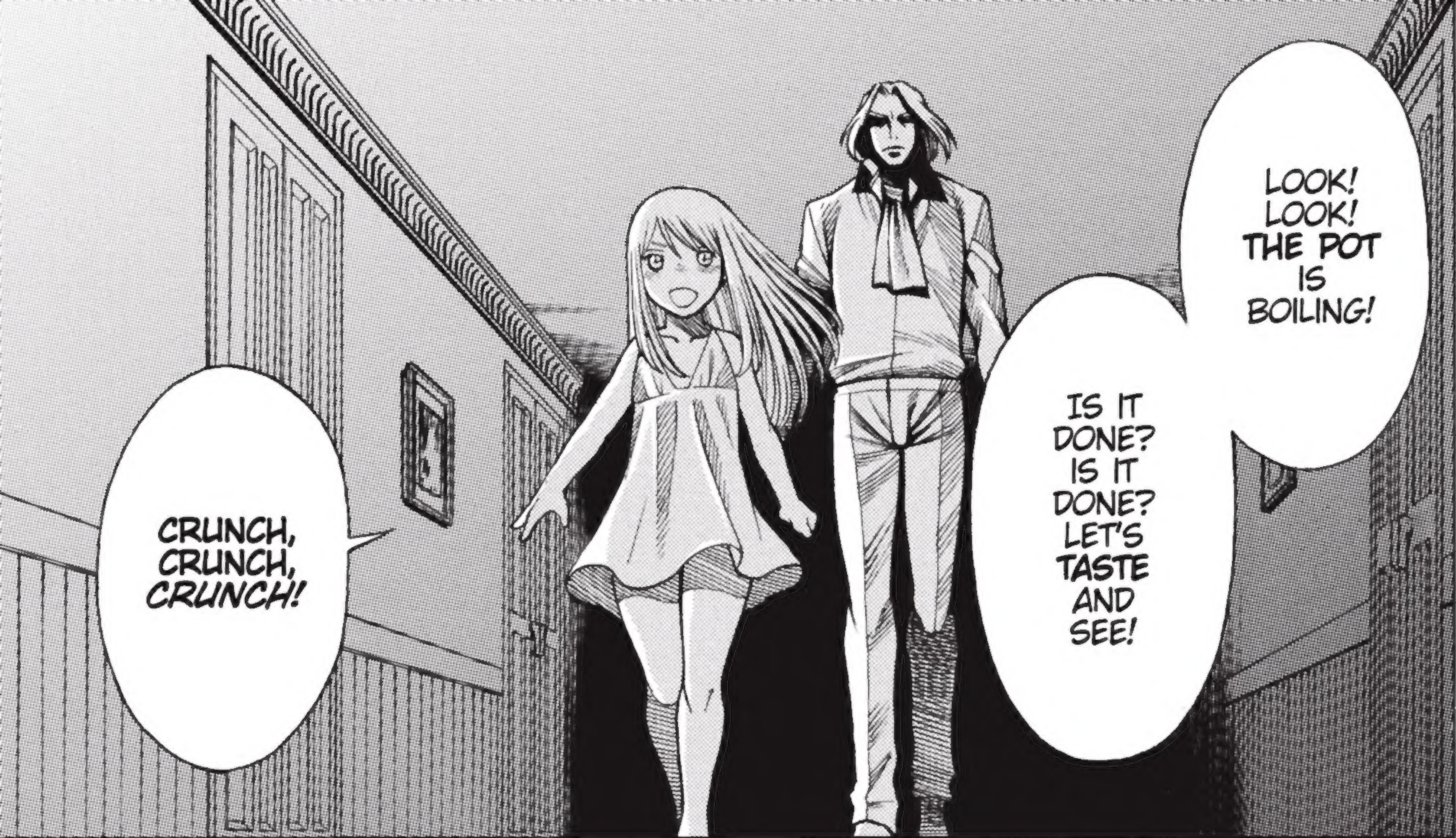
THE VGS
HAS BEEN
SUCCESS-
FULLY
DEPLOYED
WITHIN
THE CITY.



ANY-
WAY
...

OH,
WHAT
A
PRUDE
YOU
ARE.

WHAT
IS IT
YOU
WANT?
SPEAK
UP.

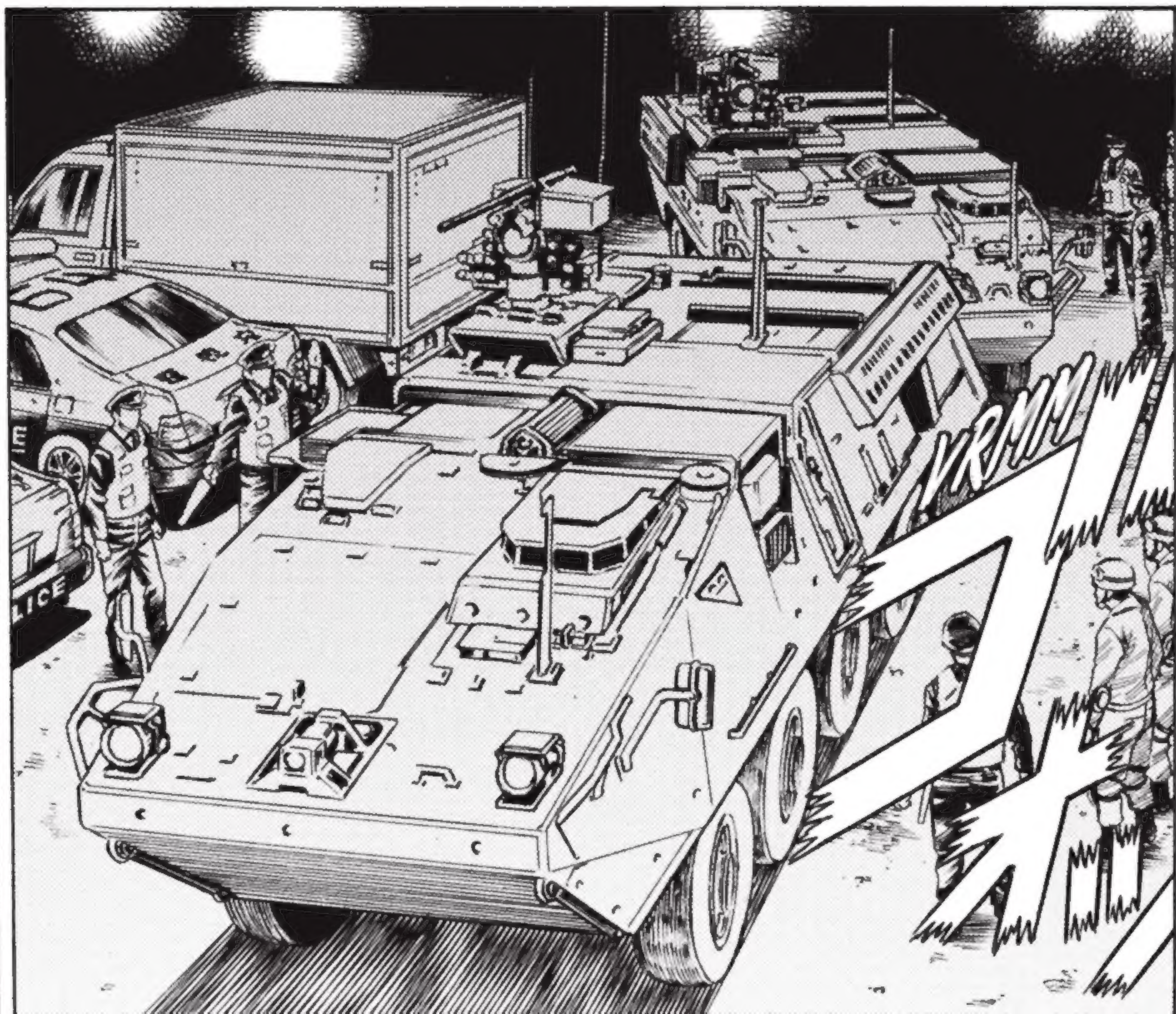


CRUNCH,
CRUNCH,
CRUNCH!

IS IT
DONE?
IS IT
DONE?
LET'S
TASTE
AND
SEE!

LOOK!
LOOK!
THE POT
IS
BOILING!

NOPE!
NOT
DONE
YET.







AH, THEM?
THOSE ARE
THE BITE
VICTIMS.
LOOKS LIKE
THEY'RE
GETTING
READY TO
BE SHIPPED
OFF TO THE
BLIND.



.....
WHAT'S
THAT?



IT'S BEEN
MORE THAN
FORTY-EIGHT
HOURS,
SO THE
HOPE OF A
CURE IS
GONE...

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT
...



BUT
THEY'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE THE
VICTIMS
IN ALL
THIS.
VICTIMS
OF A
TERRIBLE
TRAGEDY...



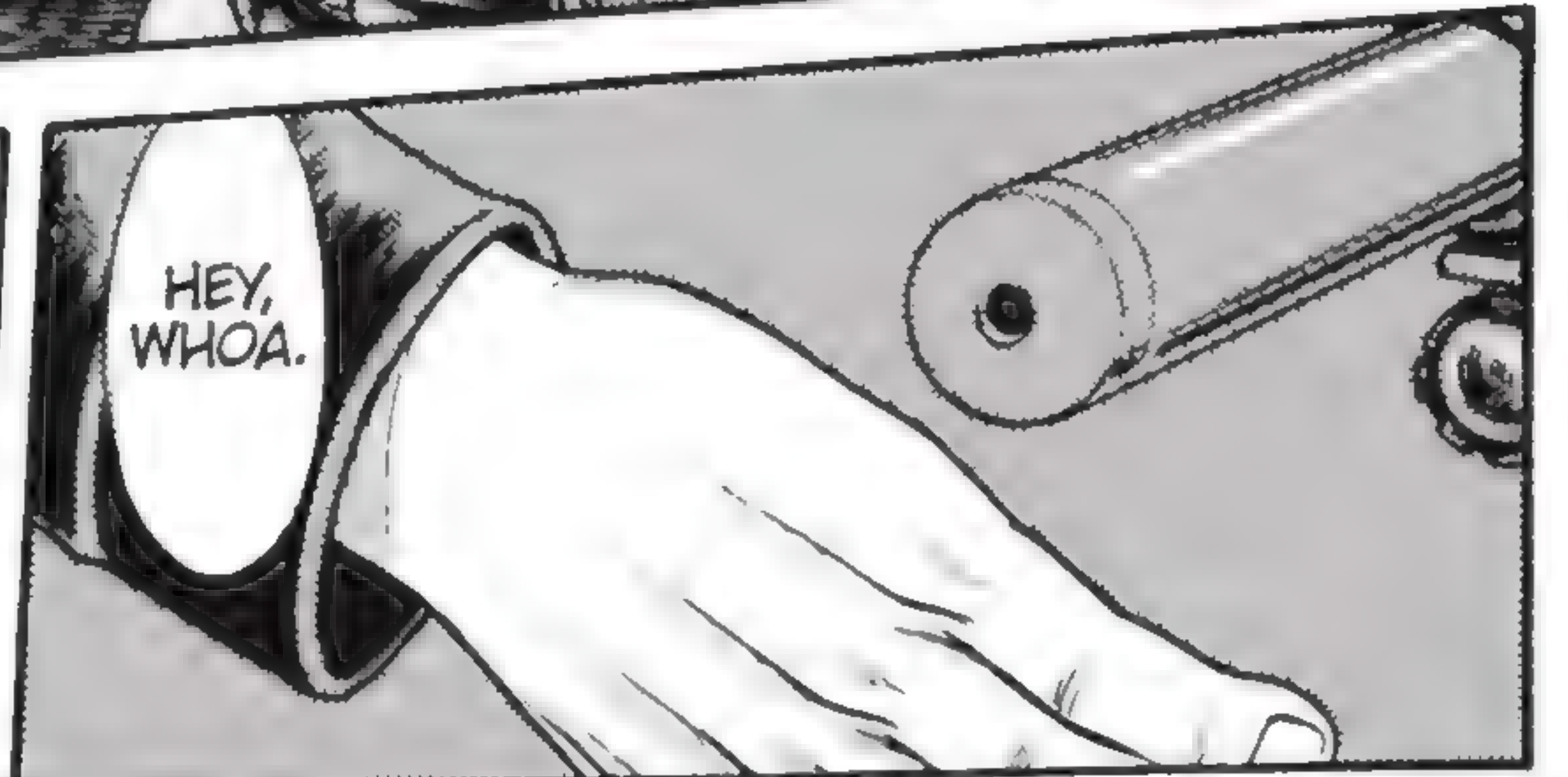
.....
THEY
LOOK LIKE
PRISONERS
BEING
HERDED
OFF TO AN
INTERN-
MENT
CAMP...





NOW, MA'AM?
I'M REALLY
SORRY TO
SAY THIS,
BUT YOU'RE
STILL ONLY
MOSTLY A
VAMPIRE.
YOU'RE NOT
ALL THE
WAY THERE
YET.

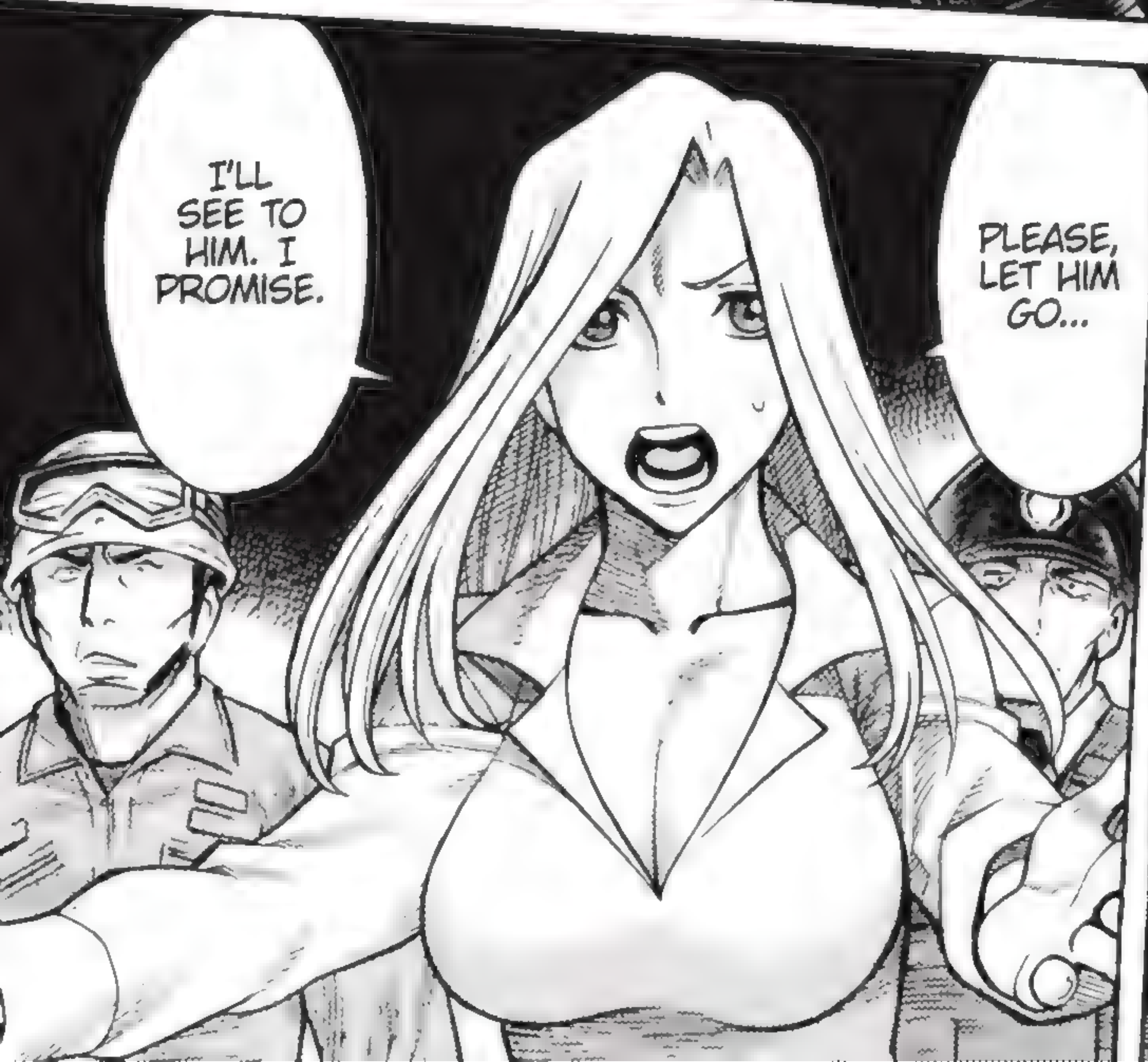
THAT
MEANS IF
YOU TRY TO
BITE THE
LITTLE TYKE
NOW, ALL
YOU'LL DO
IS HURT
HIM.



HEY,
WHOA.



EASY, THERE.
LET'S SAVE
WAVING
THE GUNS
AROUND
FOR OVER IN
THE BUND,
OKAY?



I'LL
SEE TO
HIM. I
PROMISE.

PLEASE,
LET HIM
GO...

THIS
HERE'S A
PEACEFUL
CITY,
FOUNDED
ON THE
RULE OF
LAW.





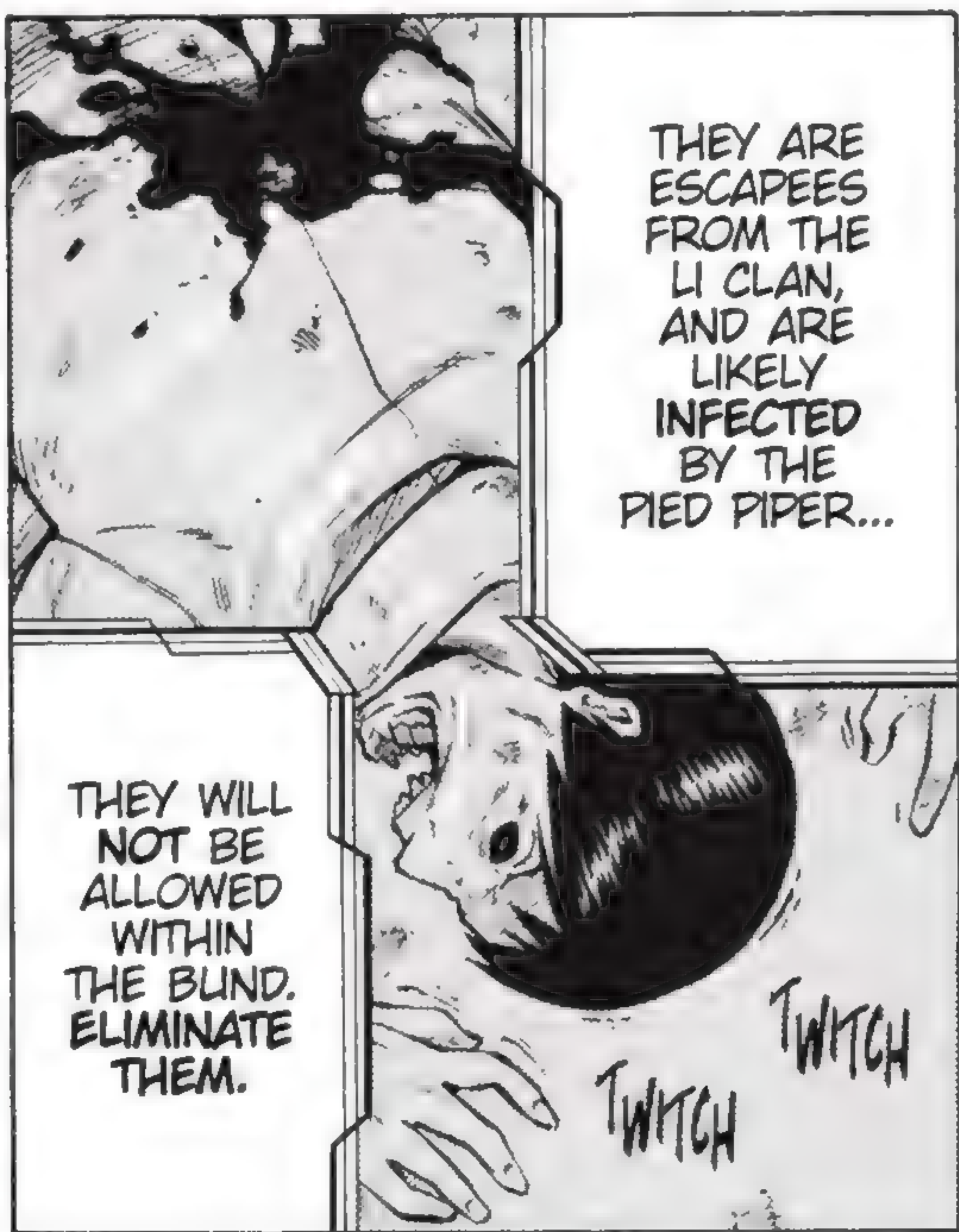
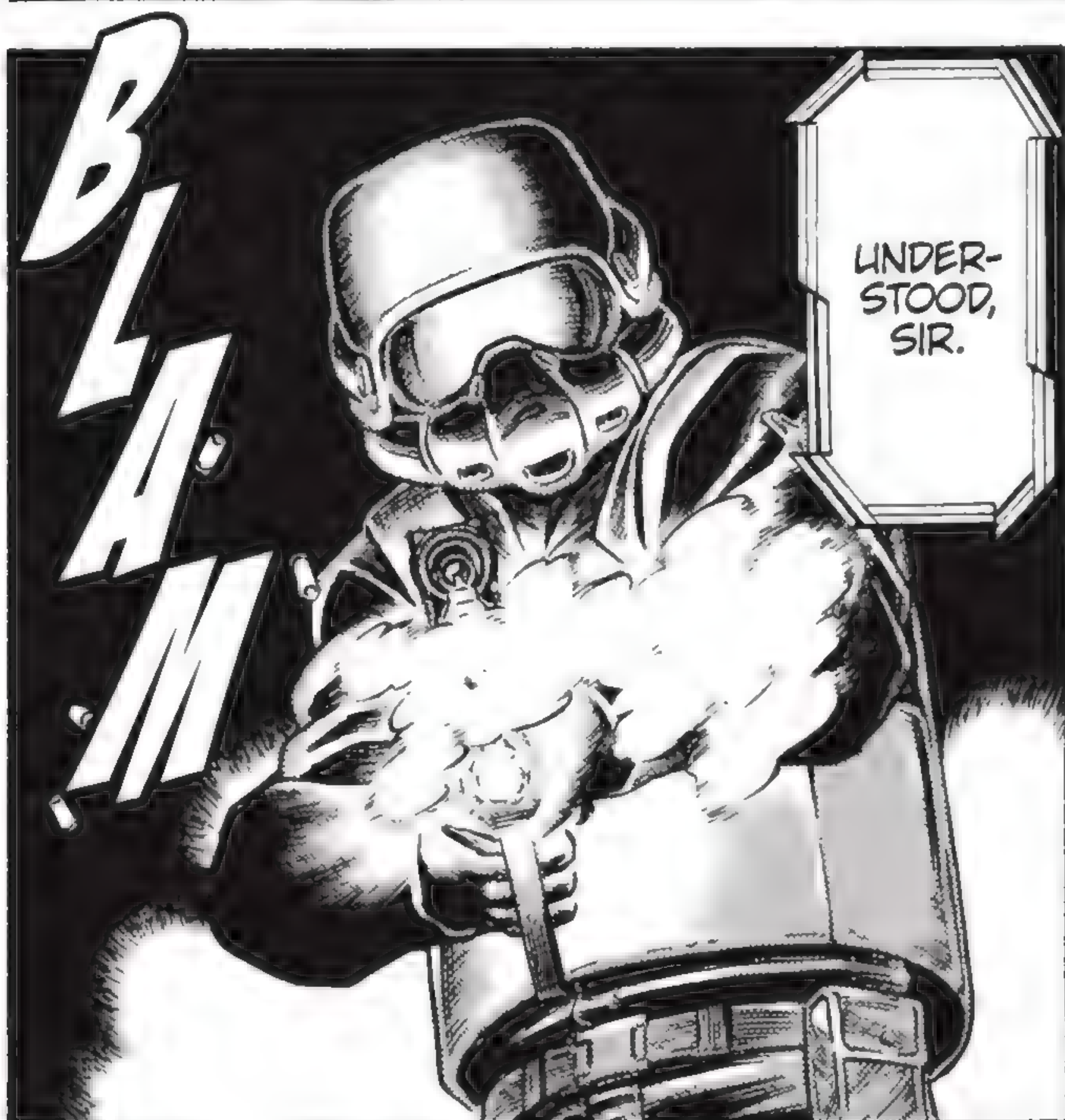
I MAY
NOT BE
ABLE TO
DO MUCH,
BUT YOU
CAN BET
I'LL BE
WITH YOU
EVERY
STEP OF
THE WAY.



I'M
GOING
TO
FIND
THAT
SOME-
ONE.

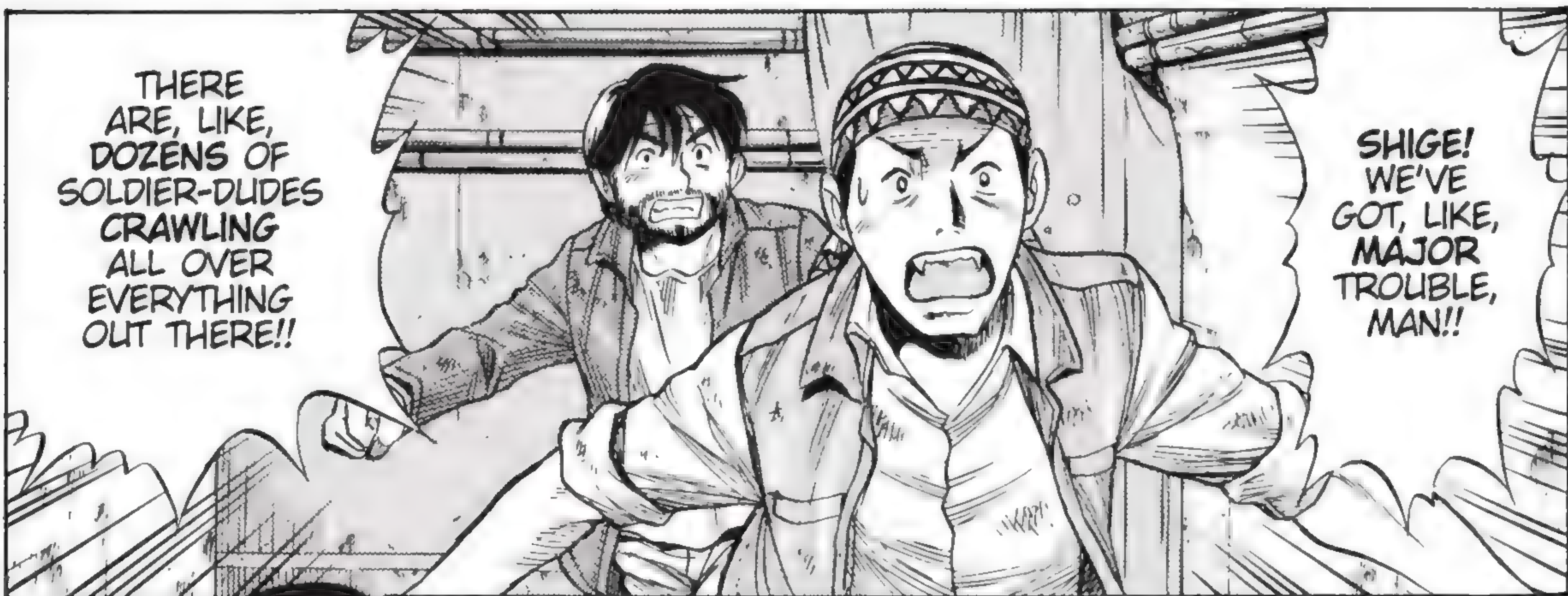
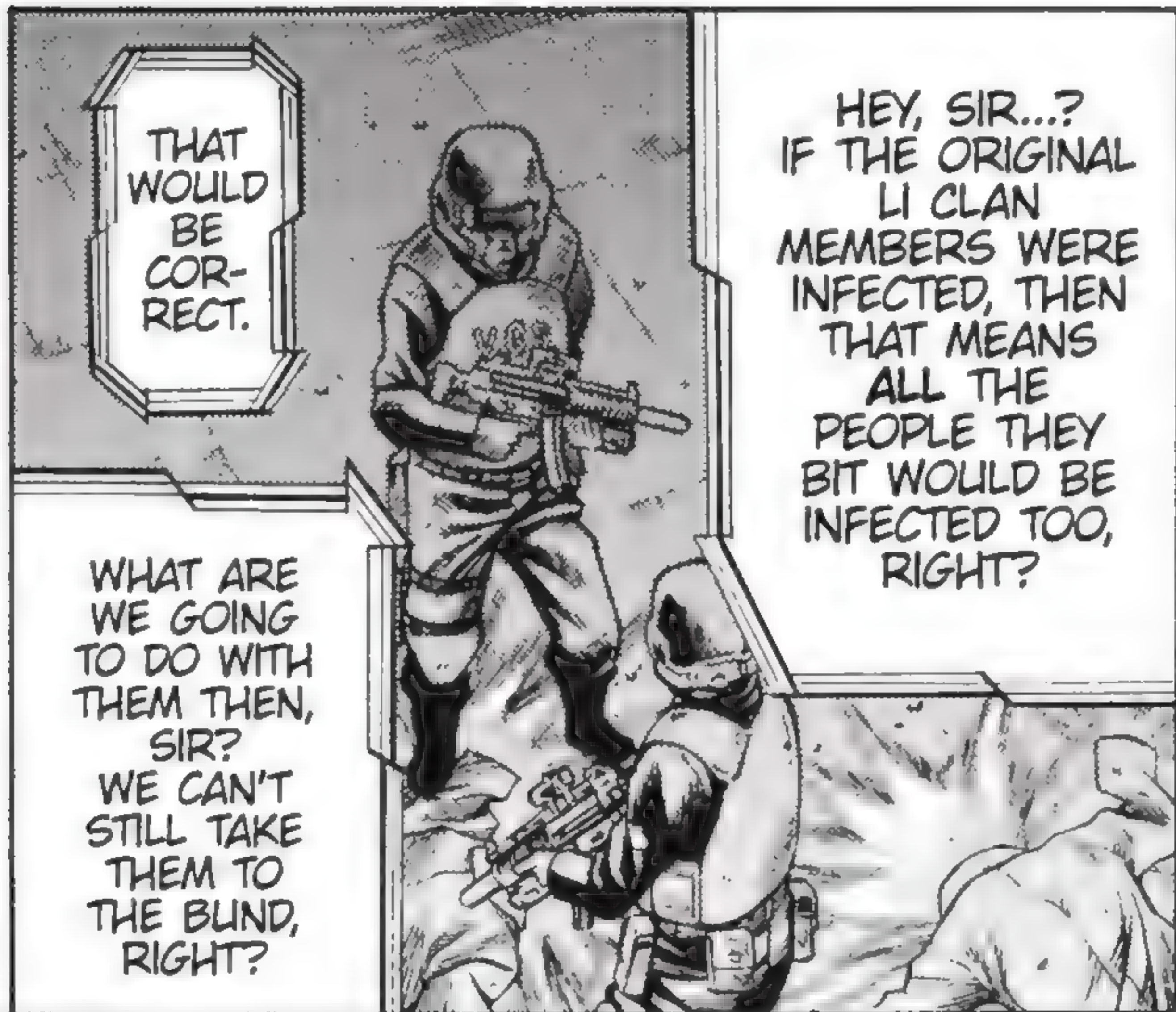
I'M
GOING TO
FIND HIM,
AND DRAG
HIM OUT
INTO THE
SUNLIGHT,
WHERE
EVERYONE
CAN SEE HIS
CRIMES!!

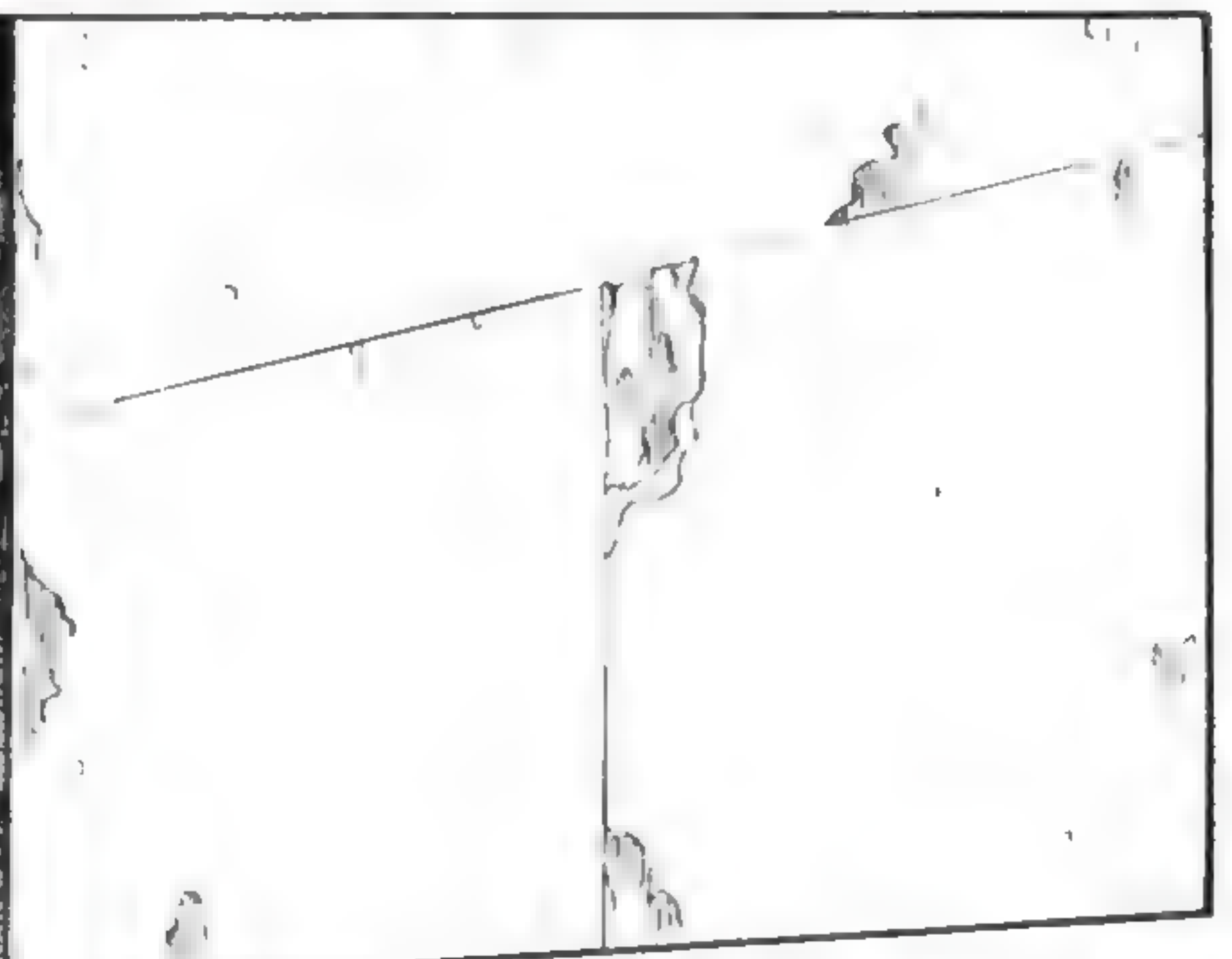
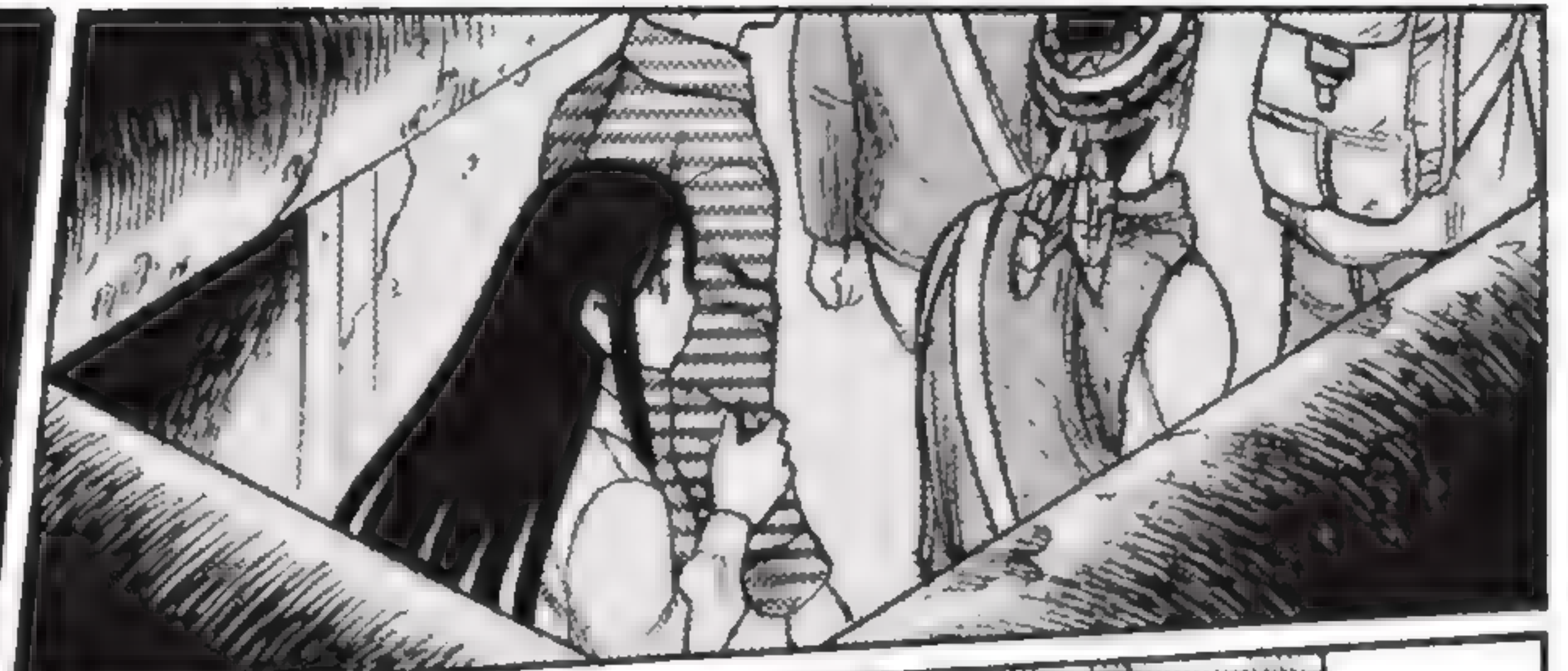




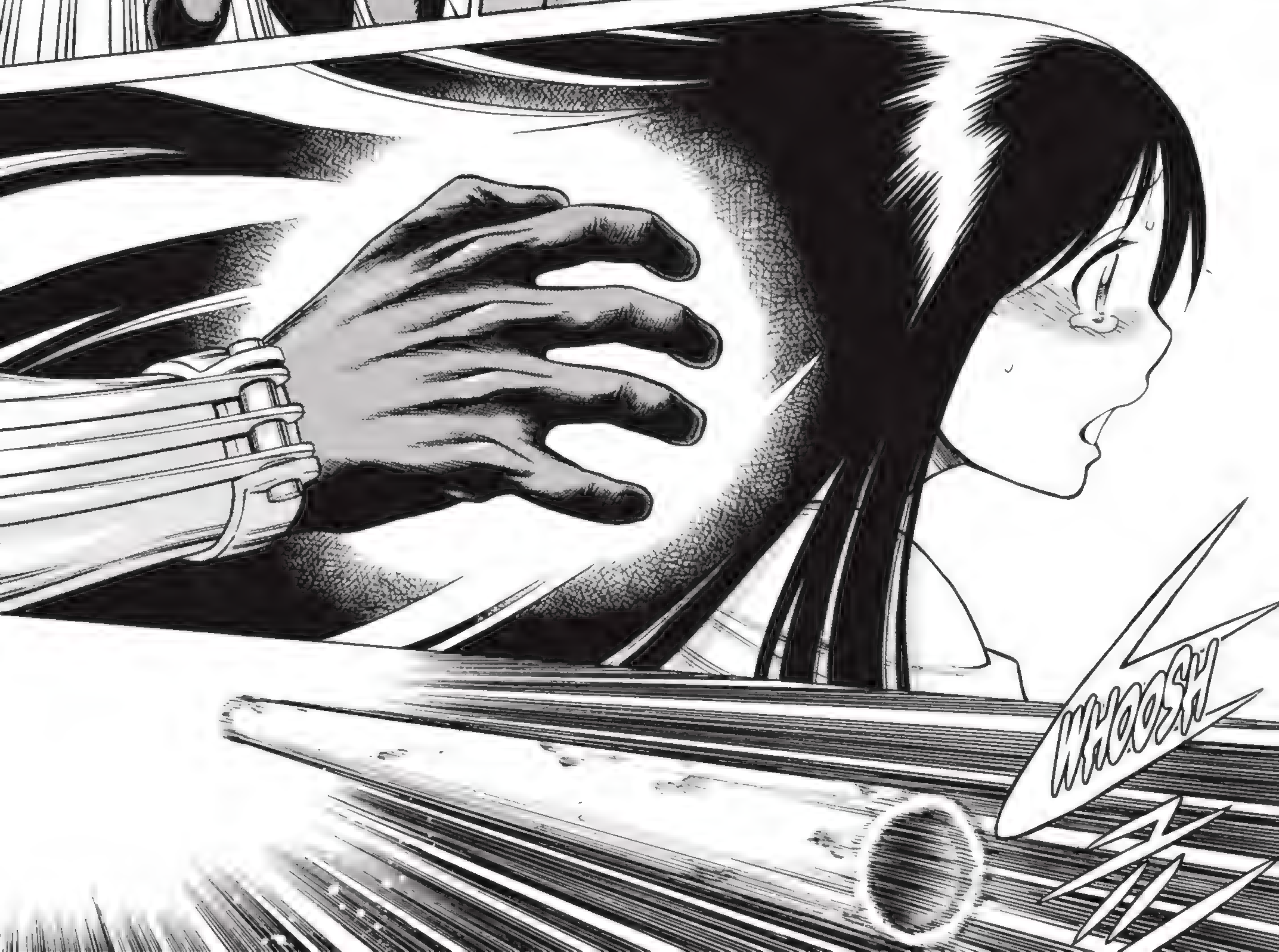


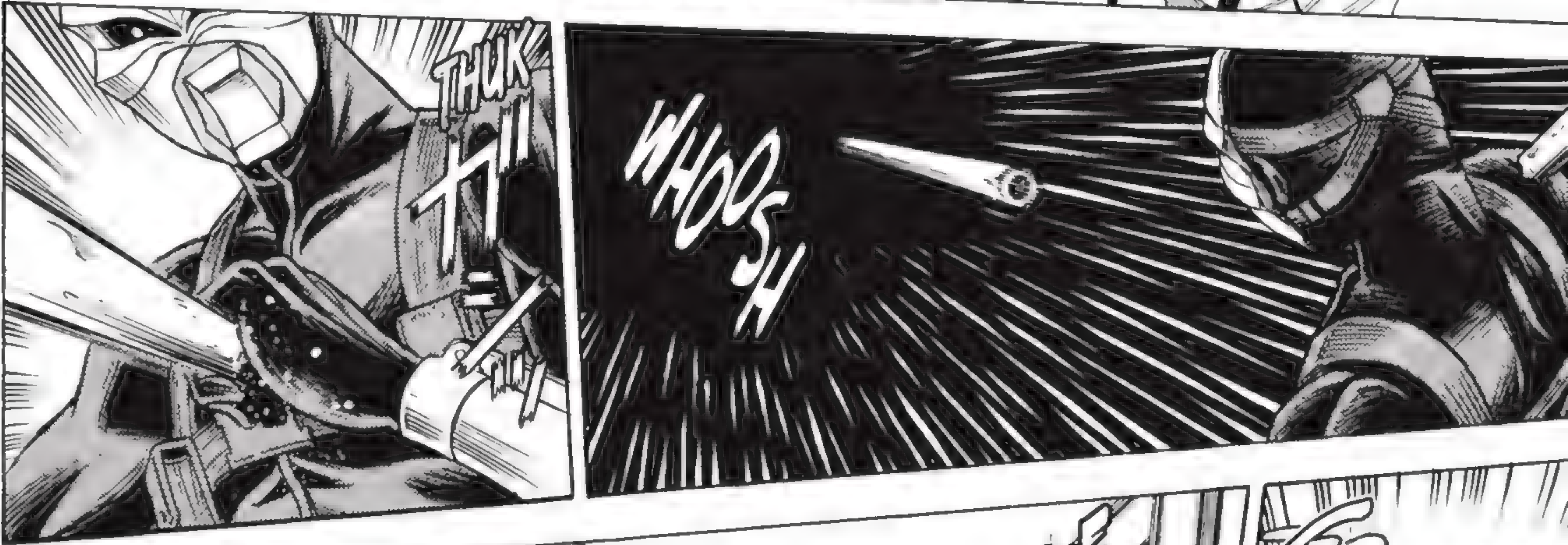
HELL IF I KNOW. THAT'S SOMETHING THE XOs GET TO THINK ABOUT.



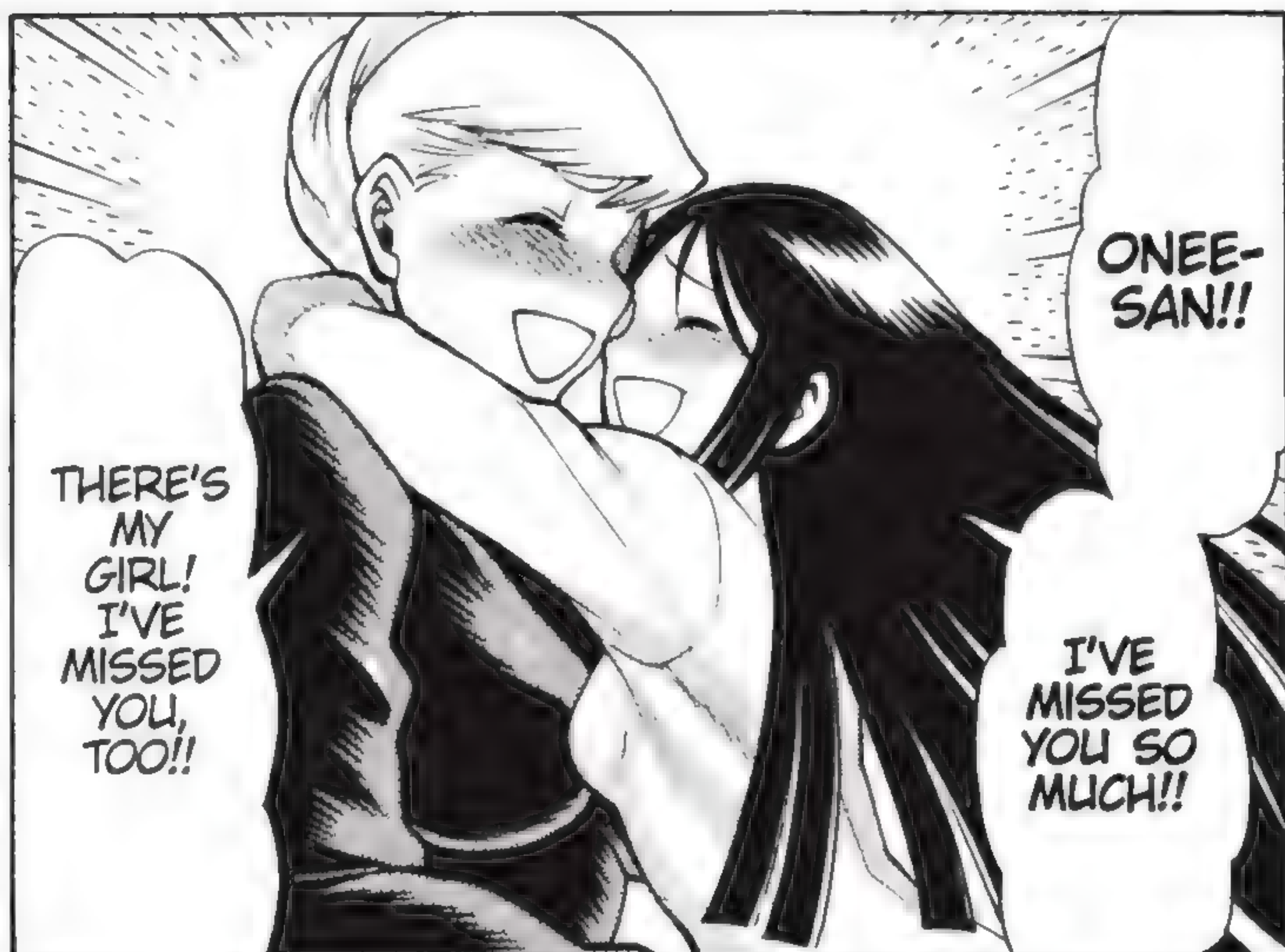












THERE'S MY GIRL! I'VE MISSED YOU, TOO!!

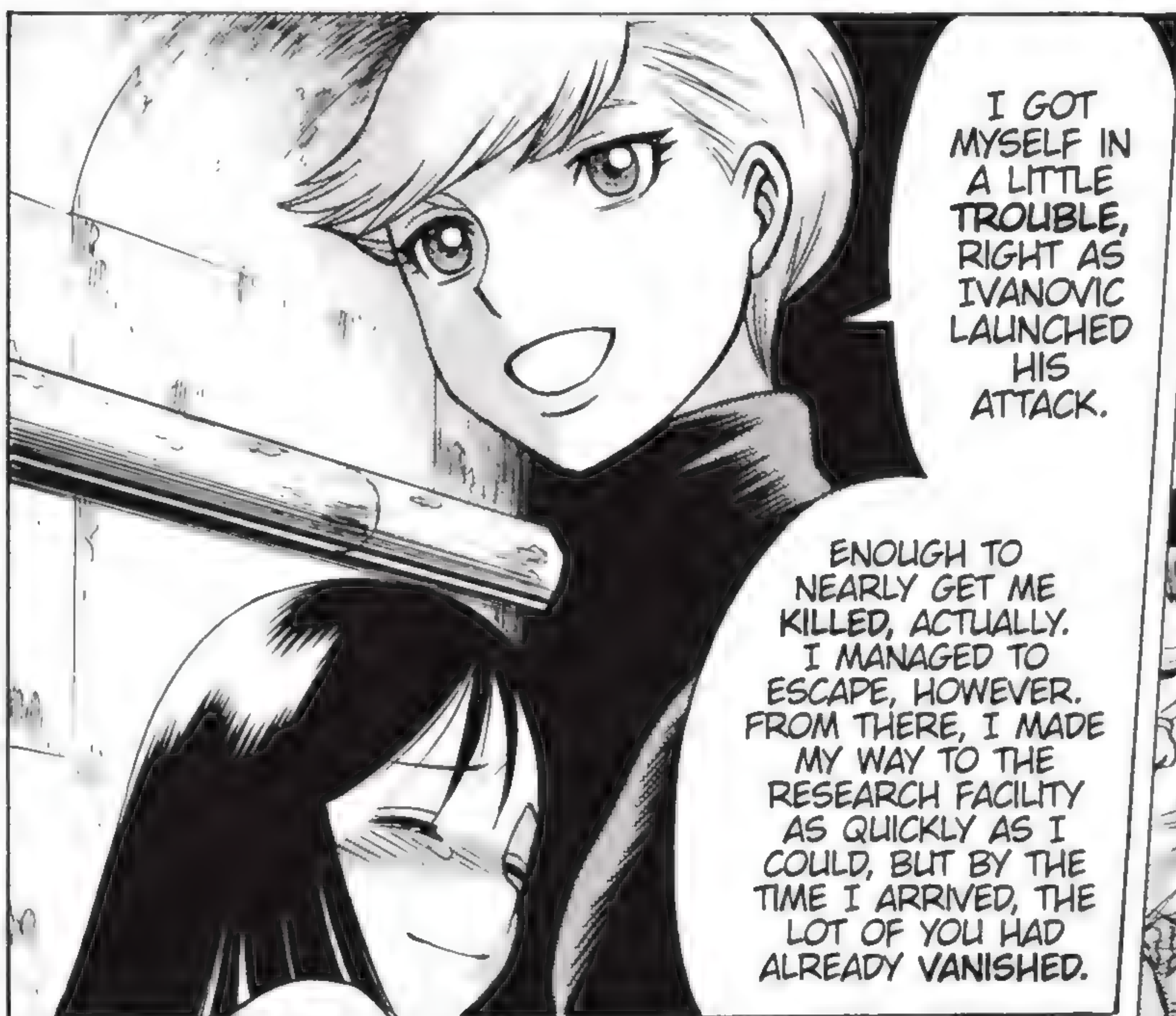
ONEE-SAN!!

I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH!!



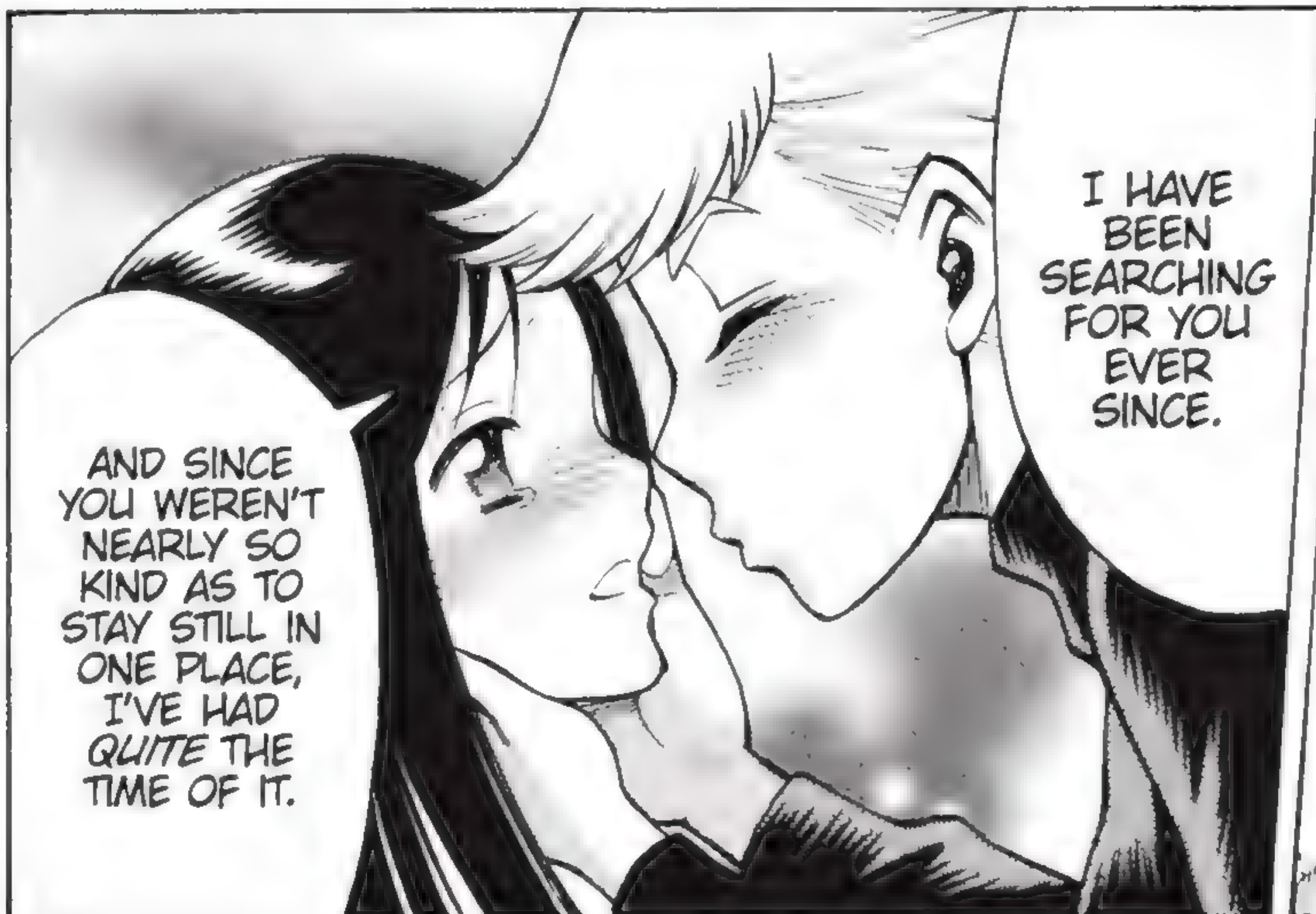
TATIANNNA!

TATIANNA-ONEESAN!!



I GOT MYSELF IN A LITTLE TROUBLE, RIGHT AS IVANOVIC LAUNCHED HIS ATTACK.

ENOUGH TO NEARLY GET ME KILLED, ACTUALLY. I MANAGED TO ESCAPE, HOWEVER. FROM THERE, I MADE MY WAY TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY AS QUICKLY AS I COULD, BUT BY THE TIME I ARRIVED, THE LOT OF YOU HAD ALREADY VANISHED.



AND SINCE YOU WEREN'T NEARLY SO KIND AS TO STAY STILL IN ONE PLACE, I'VE HAD QUITE THE TIME OF IT.

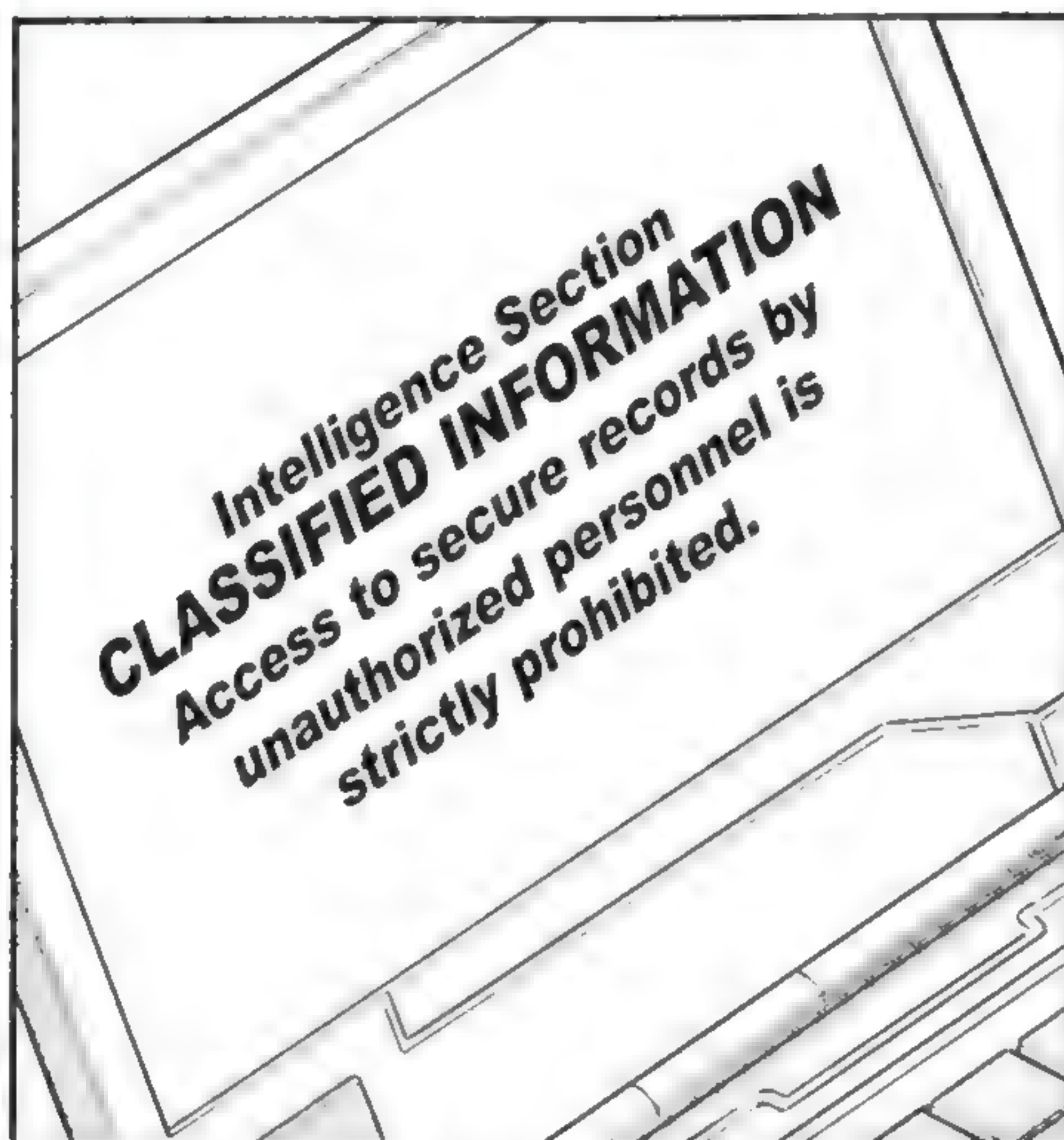
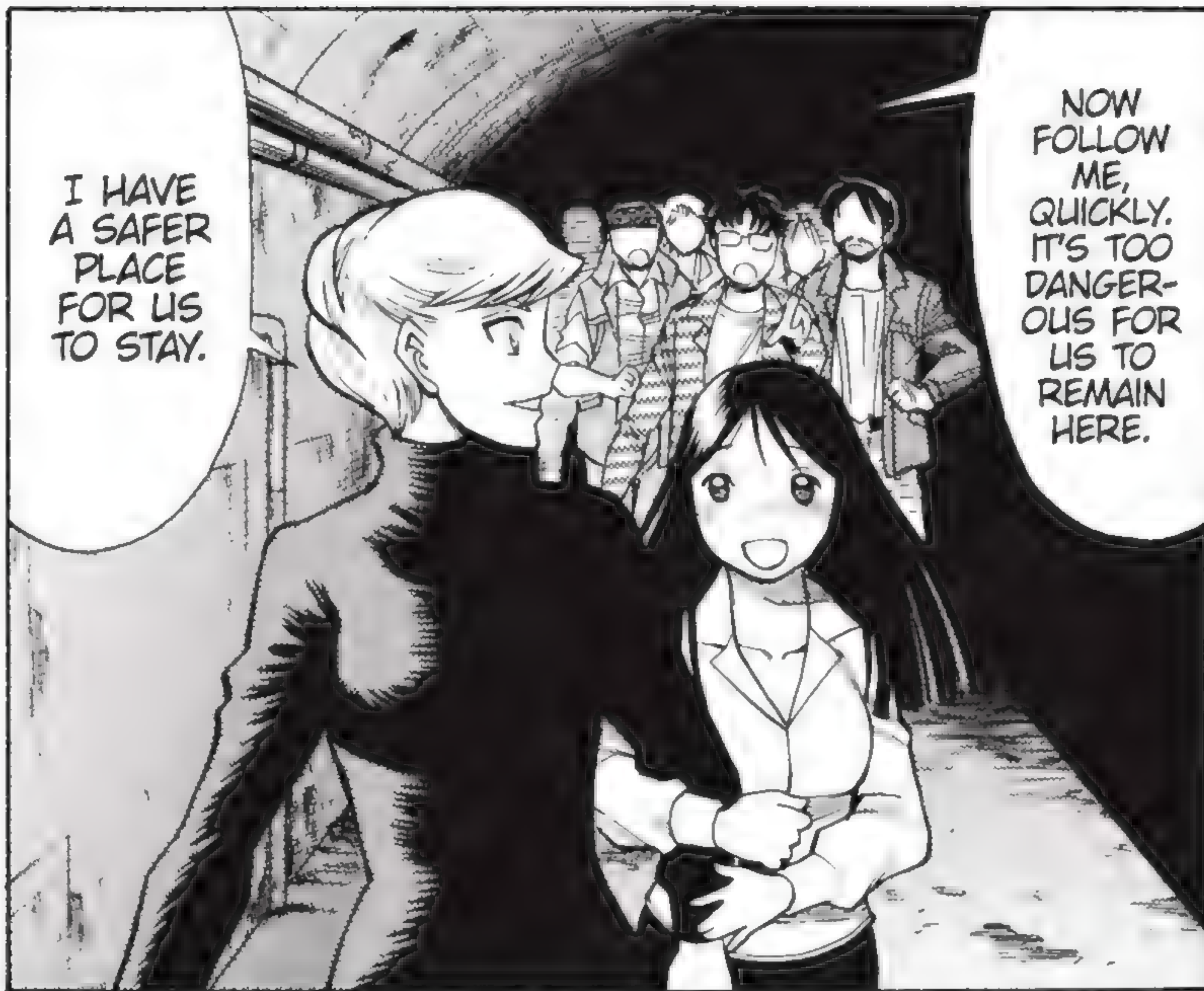
I HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOU EVER SINCE.

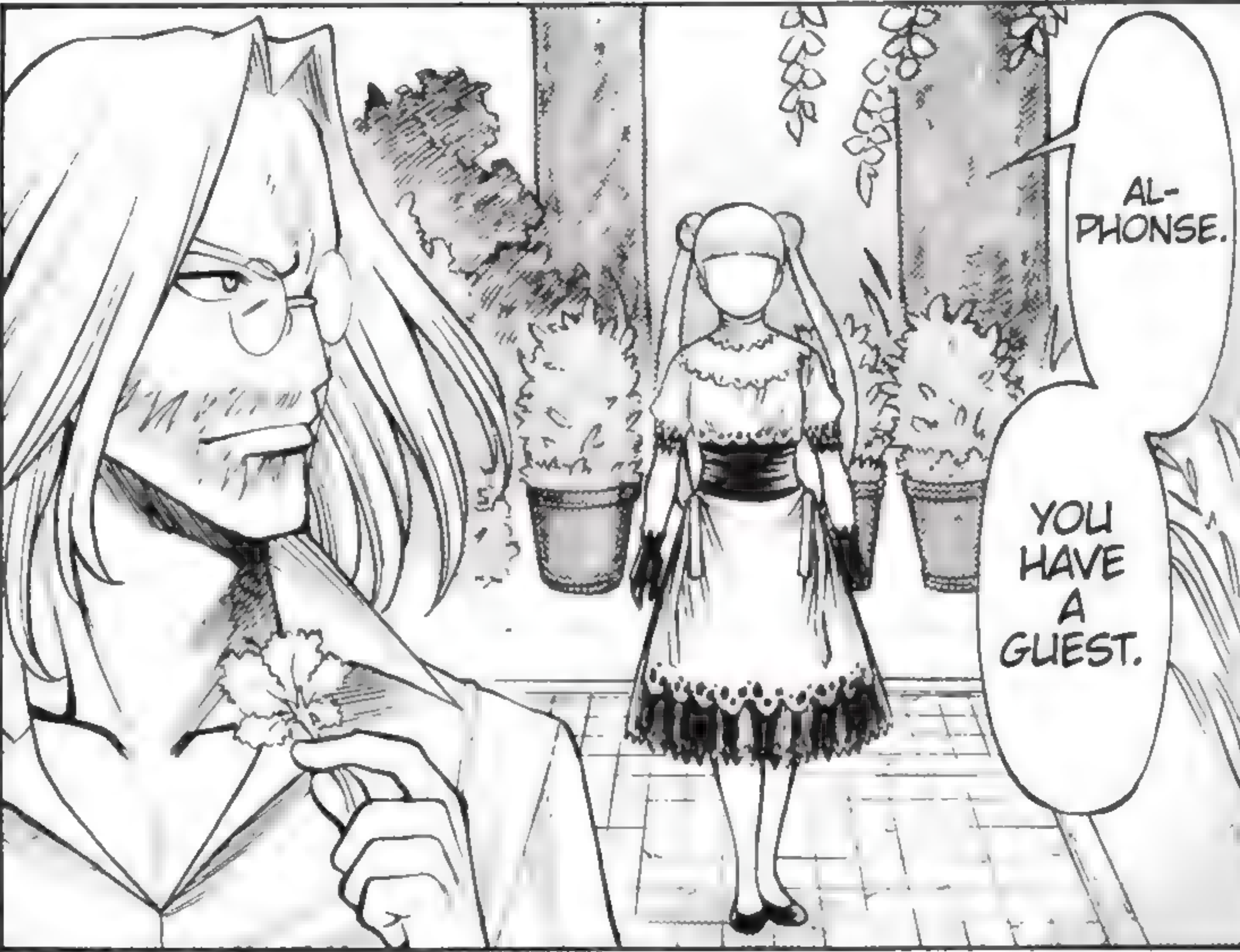
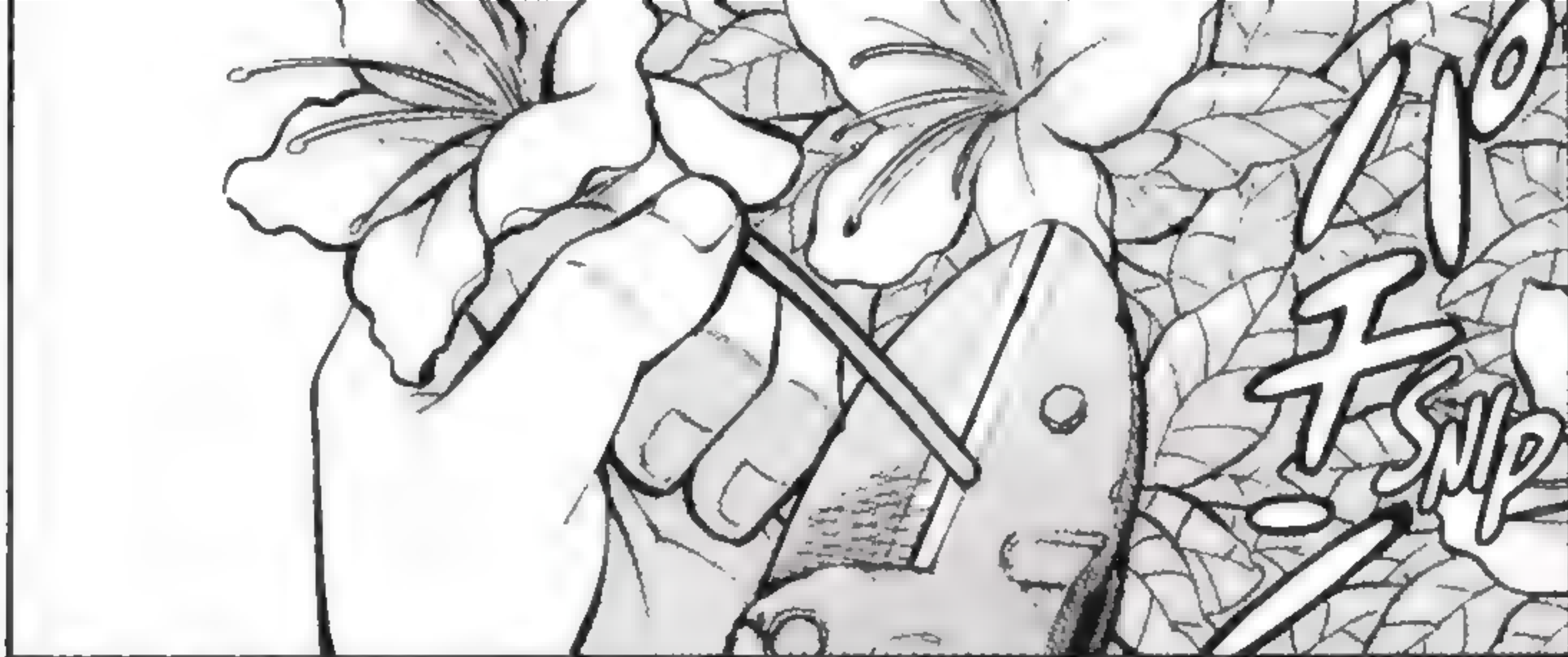


WE'VE BEEN WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU!!

TATIANNA, WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?!

HEY, NOW. I COULD SAY THE SAME, RIGHT BACK AT YOU.









WHERE
DID YOU
SEND THE
VICTIMS
FROM THE
ROGUE
VAMPIRE
ATTACK?



ALAS,
I'M AFRAID
I MUST
DISAPPOINT
YOU.
THIS WAS
NOT MY
DOING...

IT WAS
HER
MAJESTY'S.



THAT
MEANS
YOU
DID
IT!!

WHAT
THE
HELL
ARE YOU
PLANNING
THIS
TIME,
HUH?!



HIME-
SAN'S
...?

NO!
SHE'D
NEVER
!!



THEIR
TRANS-
PORT
NEVER
ARRIVED
AT THE
BLIND. I
CHECKED!

IT TOOK FOREVER
TO FIND ANYTHING!
BUT WHEN I DID
MANAGE TO DIG
SOMETHING UP,
ALL IT SAID WAS THAT
THEIR DESTINATION
WAS SUDDENLY
AND INEXPLICABLY
CHANGED!
THE LOCATION
WAS CLASSIFIED
"ULTRA TOP SECRET!"
ONLY SOMEONE AT
THE VERY TOP OF
THE INTELLIGENCE
DIVISION EVEN
HAS THAT KIND OF
CLEARANCE!!



HER
ORDERS
ARE MY
LIFE.
HER SERVICE
IS MY
REASON FOR
LIVING.

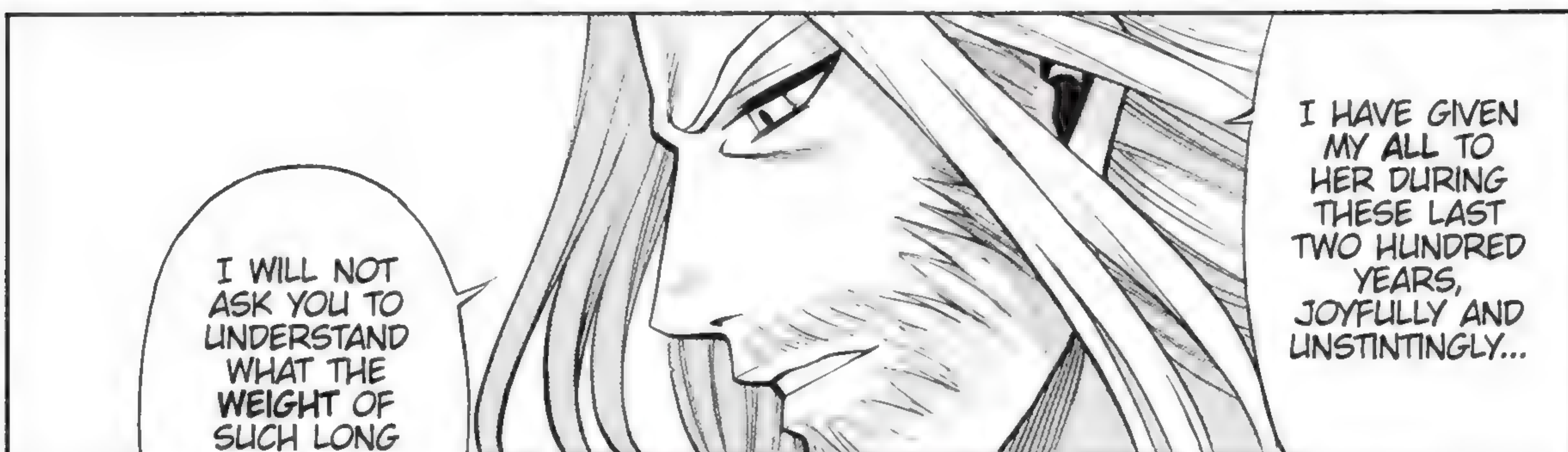
I WILL
HAVE YOU
KNOW
THAT I AM
ALWAYS
OBEDIENT
TO HER
MAJESTY'S
WISHES.
ALWAYS.



HN.
IF THERE
IS EVER
ANYTHING
SUSPICIOUS,
IT MUST
ALWAYS
BE ME?

I FIND
I DISLIKE
MUCH
OF THIS
UNWAR-
RANTED
SUSPICION.

EVER EVEN
A HINT OF
FOUL PLAY,
AND THE FIRST
PERSON YOU
DOUBT IS
ALWAYS ME.
IT MUST BE
SO EASY
FOR YOU.



I WILL NOT
ASK YOU TO
UNDERSTAND
WHAT THE
WEIGHT OF
SUCH LONG
SERVICE
IS LIKE.
YOU COULD
NOT.

I HAVE GIVEN
MY ALL TO
HER DURING
THESE LAST
TWO HUNDRED
YEARS,
JOYFULLY AND
UNSTINTINGLY...



.....



HUH
?



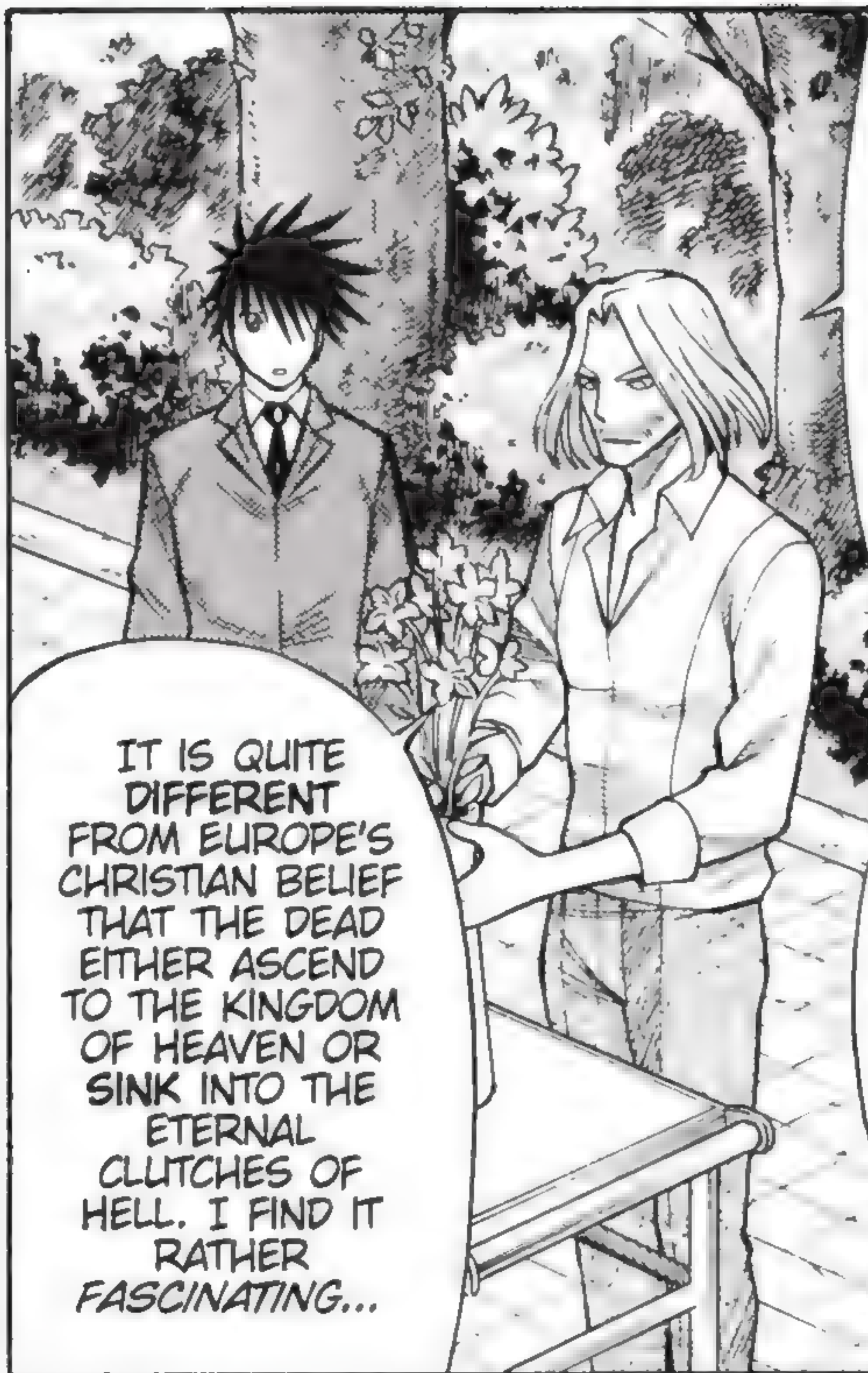
IF YOU
WERE EVER
TO BE
REBORN,
WHAT WOULD
YOU WISH
TO BE
REBORN
AS?

INSTEAD,
LET ME
ASK
YOU A
QUES-
TION.



WELL,
AKIRA
?

WHAT
WOULD
YOU
CHOOSE
TO BE?



IT IS QUITE
DIFFERENT
FROM EUROPE'S
CHRISTIAN BELIEF
THAT THE DEAD
EITHER ASCEND
TO THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN OR
SINK INTO THE
ETERNAL
CLUTCHES OF
HELL. I FIND IT
RATHER
FASCINATING...

ONE OF
THE THINGS
I LEARNED
WHEN I
FIRST CAME
TO THIS
COUNTRY
WAS THE
NOTION OF
REBIRTH...

SAMSARA,
THE
BUDDHIST
PHILOSOPHY
OF ETERNAL
BIRTH AND
REBIRTH.



HEH
HEH
...

I,
HOW-
EVER,
AM
DIFFER-
ENT.

I
THOUGHT
YOU
MIGHT SAY
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.



AND I'D
COME
BACK TO
PROTECT
HIME-SAN.

IN MY
NEXT
LIFE,
I'D WANT
TO BE
ME
AGAIN...

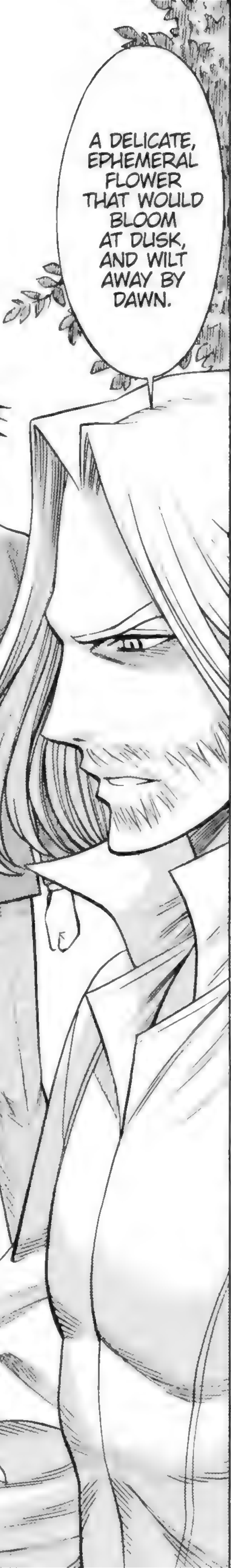


ME,
HUH
...?

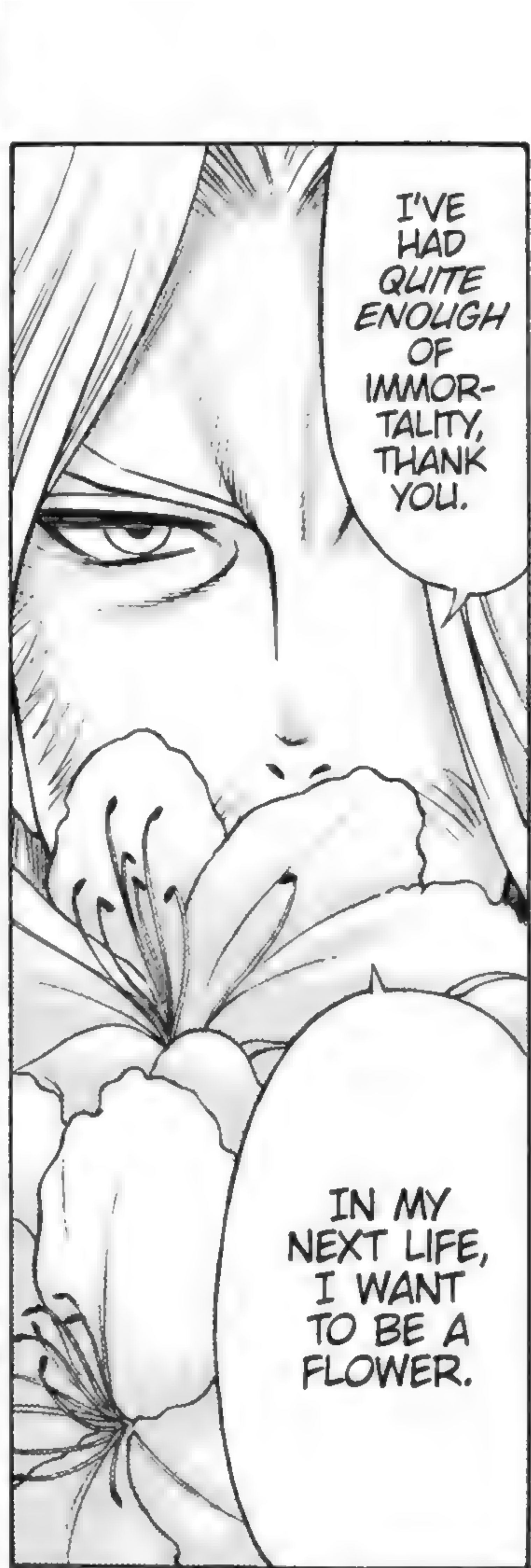




AND IF,
IN THAT
BRIEF SPACE
OF TIME,
I SHOULD
HAVE THE
CHANCE TO
DECORATE
HER HAIR...




A DELICATE,
EPHEMERAL
FLOWER
THAT WOULD
BLOOM
AT DUSK,
AND WILT
AWAY BY
DAWN.



I'VE
HAD
QUITE
ENOUGH
OF
IMMOR-
TALITY,
THANK
YOU.



IN MY
NEXT LIFE,
I WANT
TO BE A
FLOWER.



THAT
WOULD
BE
ENOUGH.



A
FLOWER?
SERI-
OUSLY
?



YES.



BUT NOW,
I AM NOT
A FLOWER.
AND MY
LOYALTY
TO HER
MAJESTY WILL
NEVER
WAVER.

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

WHEN
PLUSH
COMES
TO
SHOVE,
HOW
WILL
YOURS
FARE?



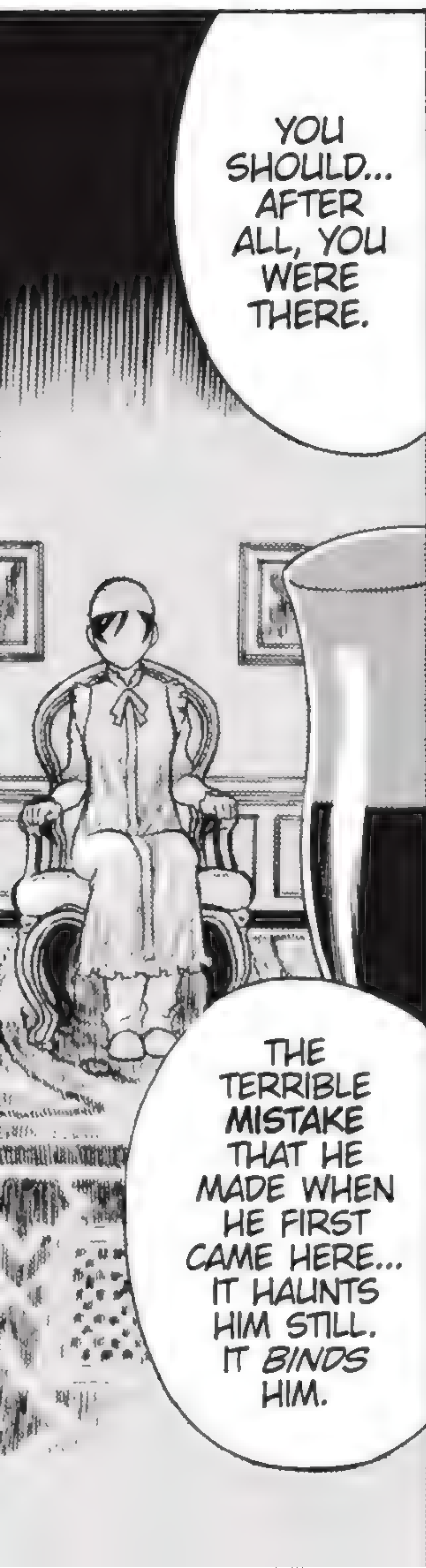
BUT HE IS STEADFASTLY REFUSING TO SEE. HE SQUEEZES HIS EYES CLOSED AND COVERS HIS EARS, TELLING HIMSELF OVER AND OVER THAT HE DOESN'T DOUBT "MINA" ONE BIT.

ALL THE IMPLICATIONS, ALL THE SUSPICIONS THAT ARE STARTING TO FLY AROUND "MINA."



HE MUST BE FEELING AS IF HIS HEART IS BEING TORN IN A THOUSAND DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS RIGHT NOW.

FOOL-ISH AKIRA.



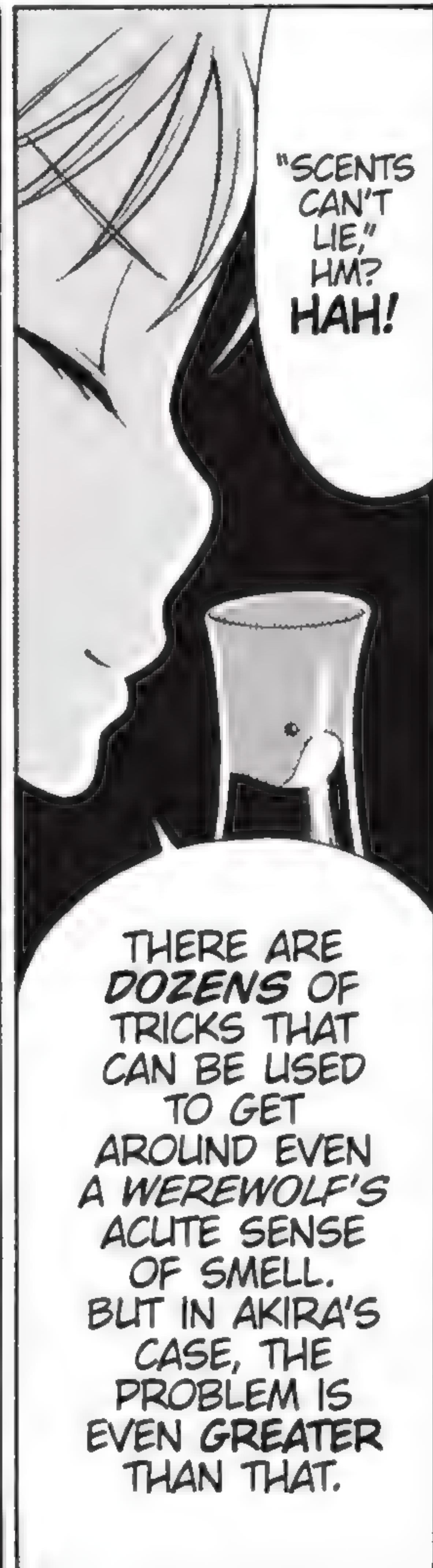
YOU SHOULD... AFTER ALL, YOU WERE THERE.

THE TERRIBLE MISTAKE THAT HE MADE WHEN HE FIRST CAME HERE... IT HAUNTS HIM STILL. IT BINDS HIM.



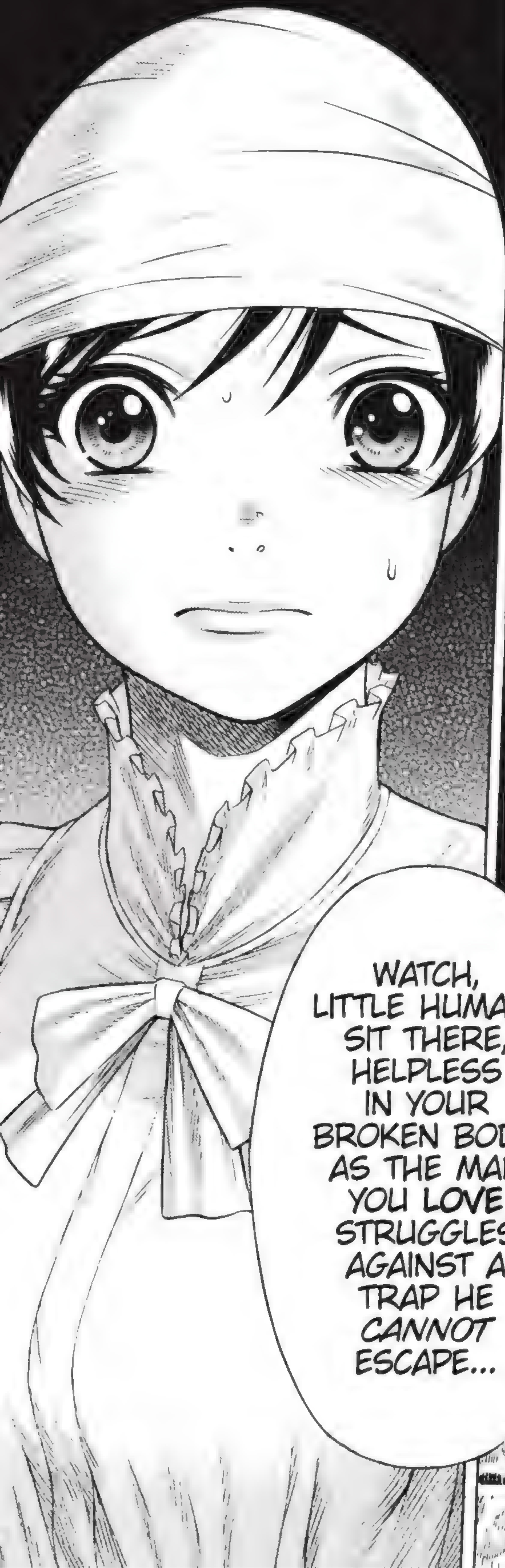
DO YOU KNOW WHY?

YOU SEE, HE CAN'T DOUBT "MINA." IT IS PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO DO SO.

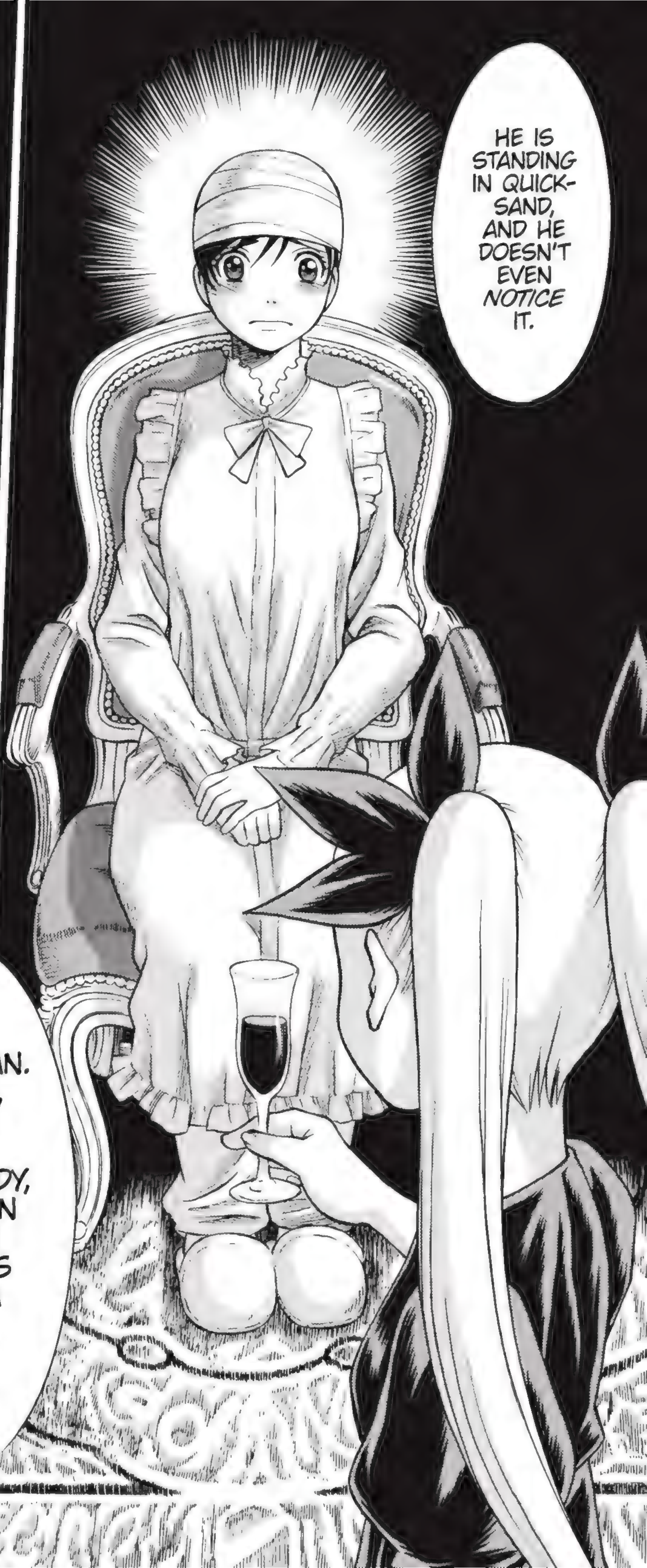


"SCENTS CAN'T LIE," HM? HAH!

THERE ARE **DOZENS** OF TRICKS THAT CAN BE USED TO GET AROUND EVEN A WEREWOLF'S ACUTE SENSE OF SMELL. BUT IN AKIRA'S CASE, THE PROBLEM IS EVEN GREATER THAN THAT.



WATCH,
LITTLE HUMAN.
SIT THERE,
HELPLESS
IN YOUR
BROKEN BODY,
AS THE MAN
YOU LOVE
STRUGGLES
AGAINST A
TRAP HE
CANNOT
ESCAPE...



HE IS
STANDING
IN QUICK-
SAND,
AND HE
DOESN'T
EVEN
NOTICE
IT.

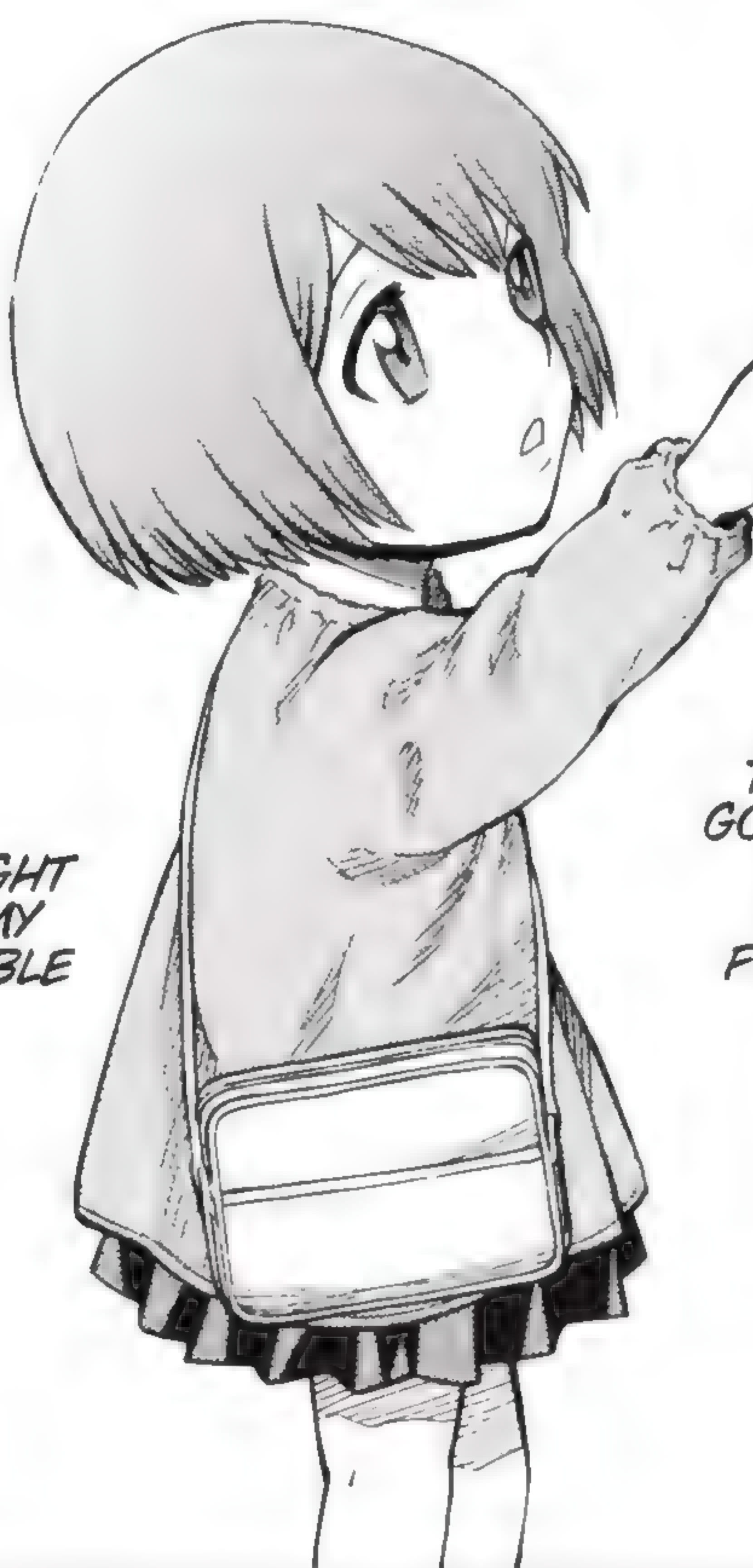
Chapter 61: Her World

SO MY MOTHER
WENT BACK TO
THE JOB SHE
HAD LEFT WHEN
SHE MARRIED--
INTERPRETING--
AND RAISED ME
ON HER OWN.



I NEVER
KNEW MY
FATHER.
HE DIED
SOON AFTER
I WAS
BORN.

THAT THOUGHT
BECAME MY
UNSHAKEABLE
BELIEF...



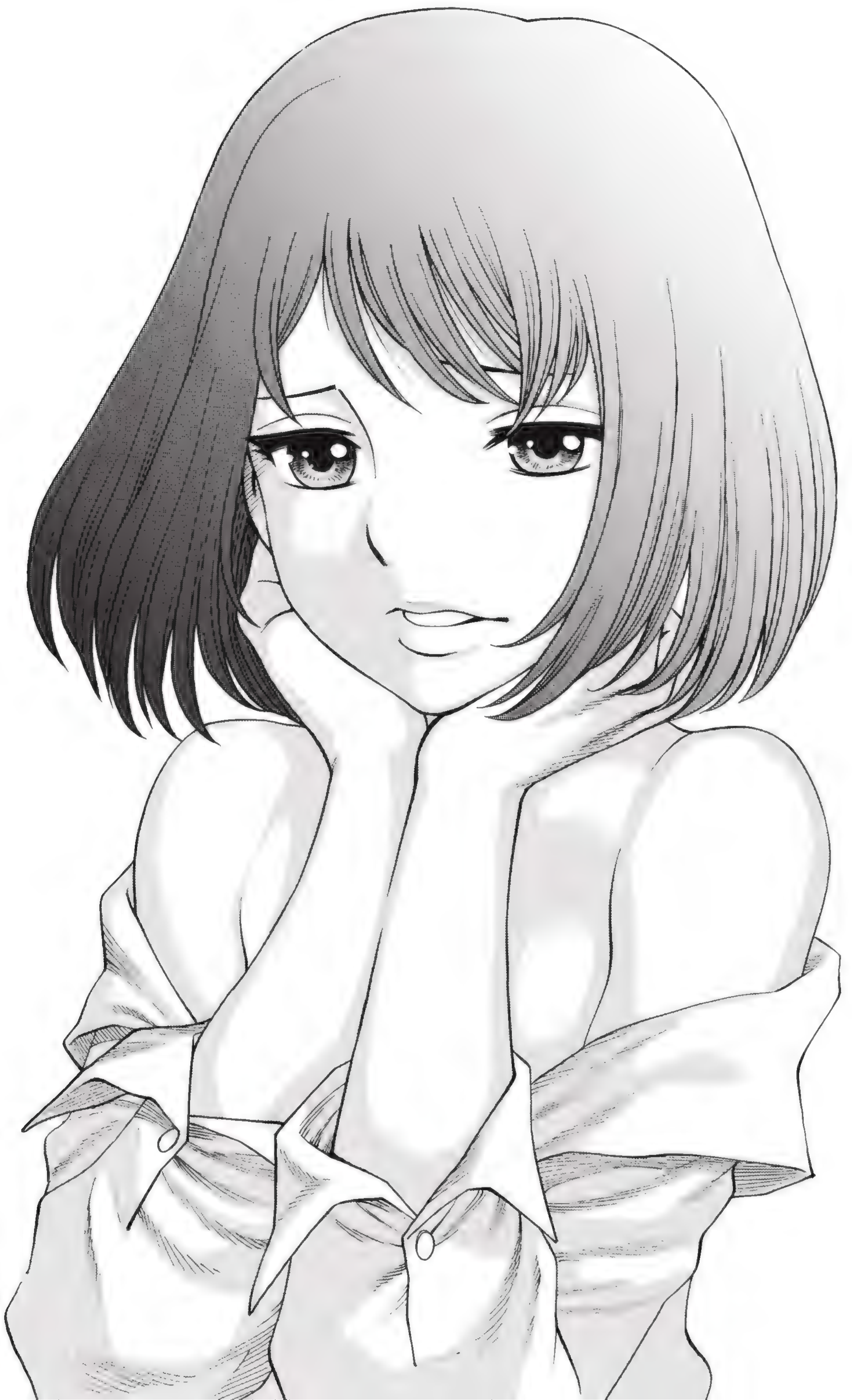
I HAD
TO BE A
GOOD GIRL.
I HAD
TO BE,
FOR MOM.

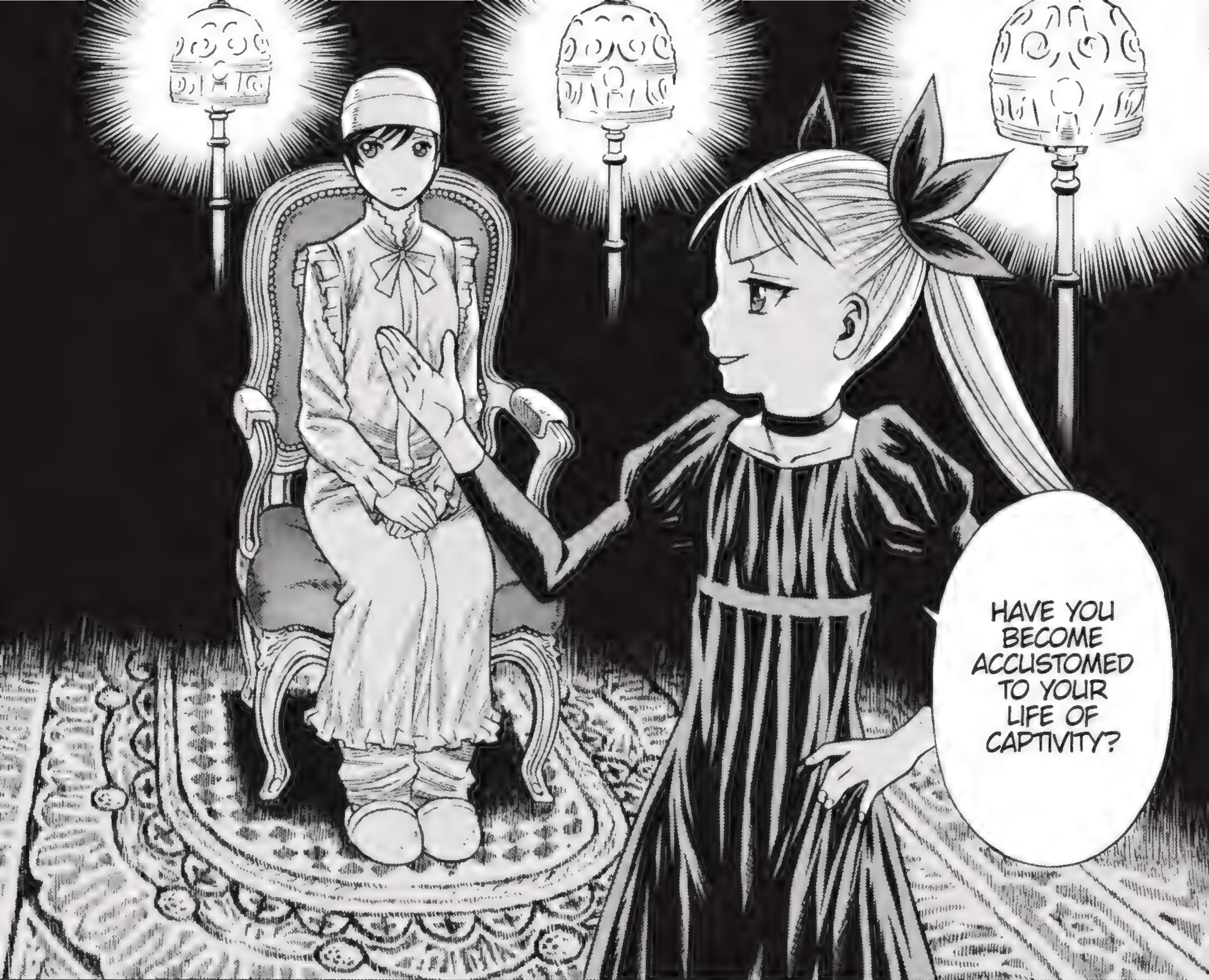
IT
WASN'T
AN EASY
JOB.
SHE
WORKED
HARD,
DAY AND
NIGHT.
AND THE
ONE
THING
SHE
ALWAYS
SAID
WAS...



OH, YUKI,
WHAT A
GOOD
LITTLE GIRL
YOU ARE!
IT'S SUCH A
BIG HELP
TO ME.

AND MY
INESCAPABLE
CURSE.





HAVE YOU
BECOME
ACCUSTOMED
TO YOUR
LIFE OF
CAPTIVITY?



I
KNOW
WHAT
IT'S
LIKE,
YOU
KNOW.

BELIEVE
ME,
I DO.



SO YOU
MAKE YOURSELF
OBSEQUIOUSLY
OBEDIENT,
ATTENTIVE TO MY
EVERY COMMAND,
ALL THE WHILE
DESPERATELY
ATTEMPTING
TO DIVINE MY
THOUGHTS
AND PLANS.

YOU
MUST BE
CONSTANTLY
ALERT.
YOU CANNOT
AFFORD
TO MISS
EVEN MY
SLIGHTEST
WORD OR
GESTURE.

AFTER
ALL, ANY
ONE OF
THEM
COULD
SIGNAL
THE END
OF YOUR
SHORT,
LITTLE
LIFE.

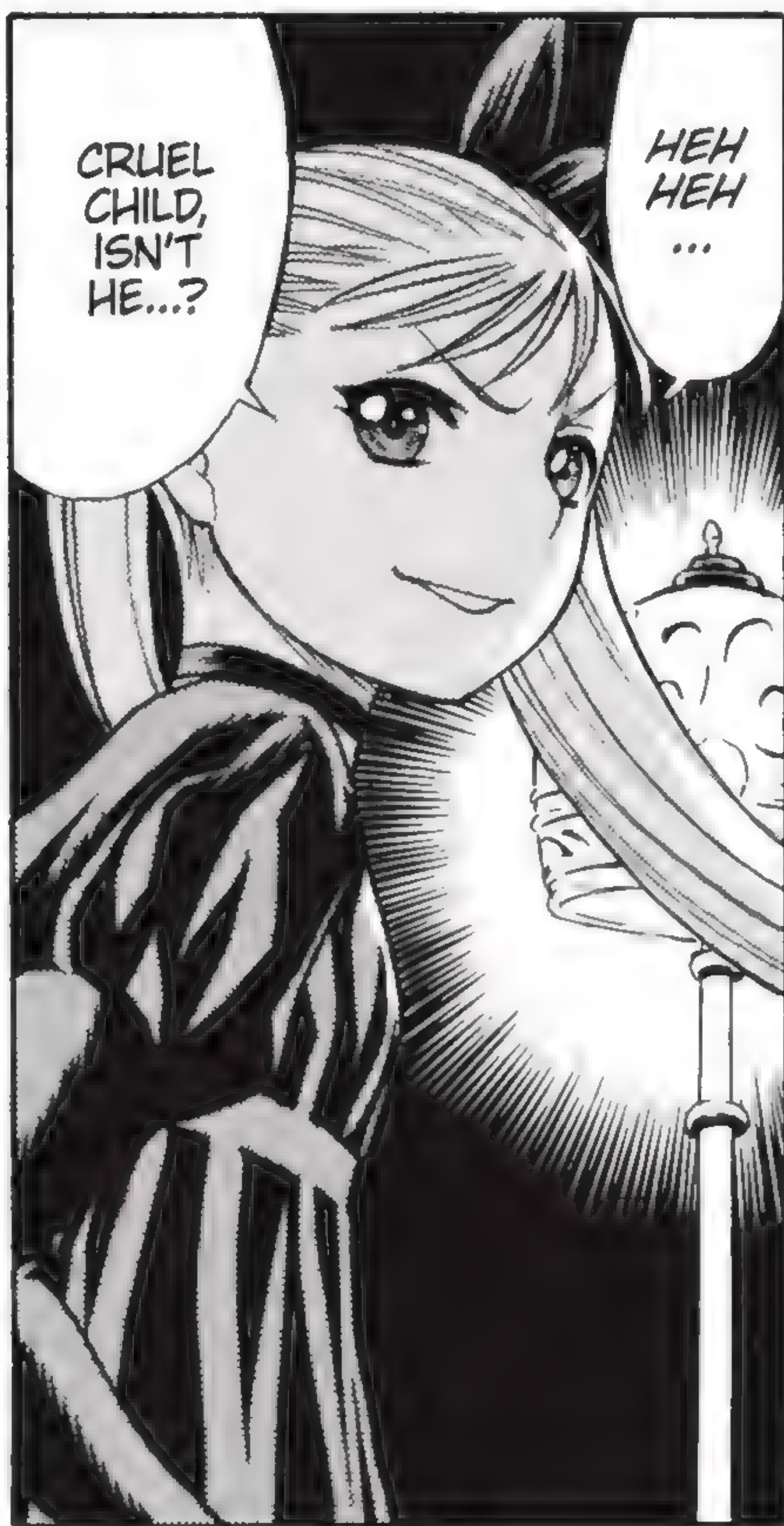


IT
MUST
BE
QUITE
TERRI-
FYING
FOR
YOU.

HELPLESS
AND
BROKEN,
SUR-
ROUNDED
BY ENEMIES
AND COM-
PLETELY
CUT OFF
FROM ALL
CONTACT
WITH THE
OUTSIDE
WORLD...



BUT YOU DIDN'T DO IT CLEVERLY ENOUGH.





AKIRA-KUN
WAS
IMMEDIATELY
THE CENTER
OF OUR
ENTIRE
CLASS.

WE
FIRST
MET
SOON
AFTER
WE
STARTED
JUNIOR
HIGH.



CHEERFUL,
BOISTEROUS,
KIND...
PEOPLE
FLOCKED TO
HIM LIKE IT
WAS THE
MOST
NATURAL
THING IN THE
WORLD.



TO ME,
AKIRA-KUN
WAS
BLINDINGLY
BRIGHT...

AND I
ALWAYS FELT
TERRIBLY
AWKWARD
AROUND
HIM.



BUT AT
THAT TIME,
I... I WAS
ALREADY
FIRMLY
LABELED BY
THE CLASS AS
A "GOODIE-
TWO-SHOES"
AND
"TEACHER'S
PET."

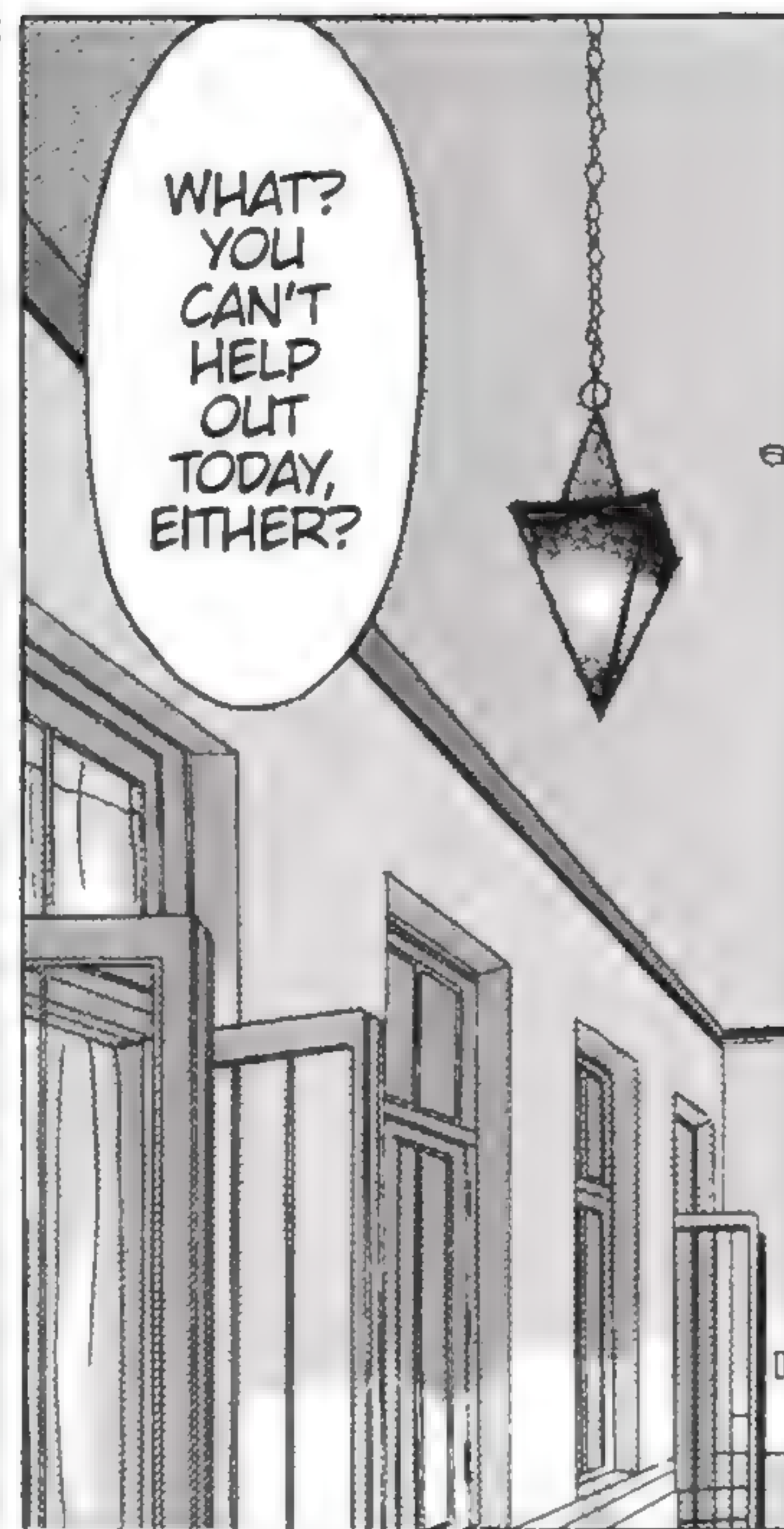
AW, MAN!
IT'S SO
BORING
HERE WHEN
AKIRA ISN'T
AROUND!!





SAME WITH ME.

I'M SO SORRY! I, LIKE, TOTALLY CAN'T SKIP CRAM SCHOOL. I'D LOVE TO, BUT I REALLY CAN'T.



WHAT? YOU CAN'T HELP OUT TODAY, EITHER?



I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR HELP TOMORROW.

THAT'S OKAY. YOU GO ON. I'LL FINISH UP.



GAWD, SHE'S, LIKE, SO OBVIOUSLY BROWN-NOSING, TOO. IT'S SOOO TOTALLY DISGUSTING!

REALLY? I TOTALLY THOUGHT SHE WAS TRYING TO LOOK GOOD FOR THE GUYS.



SEE? I TOLD YOU! YUKI-CHAN'S TOTALLY A "GOODIE-TWO-SHOES." SHE, LIKE, CAN'T SAY NO.

YEAH, TOTALLY!





I, UH...
I'M
LIVING
ALONE
WITH MY
DAD.

HM
...?

HEY,
UM,
SAE-
GLISA?



BUT THEN
EVERYBODY ELSE
HAS TO GO AND SAY,
"OH, AREN'T YOU
SUCH A GOOD,
STRONG BOY!"
WHENEVER ANYBODY
SAYS THAT TO ME,
I REALLY WANT TO
TELL THEM TO JUST
SHUT UP. THEY HAVE
NO CLUE WHAT I'M
GOING THROUGH,
HOW MUCH I
WANNA SEE MOM,
AND HOW HARD
IT IS FOR ME
NOT TO...

I WANT
TO SEE
HER LOTS
MORE
THAN I DO,
BUT I
CAN'T
ASK TO.
I'D JUST
BE A
BOTHR
AND GET
IN THE
WAY...



YEAH. MOM'S
PREGNANCY
WITH MY BABY
BROTHER
DID A REAL
NUMBER
ON HER
HEALTH.

SHE WENT
TO LIVE
OUT IN THE
COUNTRY,
SO SHE
COULD
RECOVER
IN PEACE
AND QUIET.
I DON'T GET
TO SEE HER
MUCH...

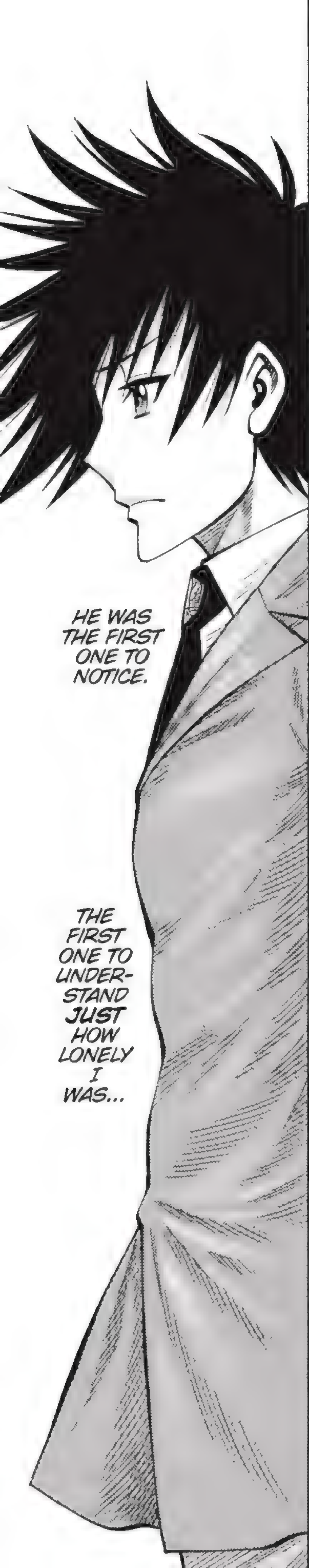


KATSU-
RAGI-
KUN...?

ARGH!
I'LL
JUST
SAY
IT!

AND...
DAMMIT,
HOW'D
I GET
ON THIS
SUBJECT
?

SO, UH...
WHAT I'M
TRYING TO
SAY IS,
UM--



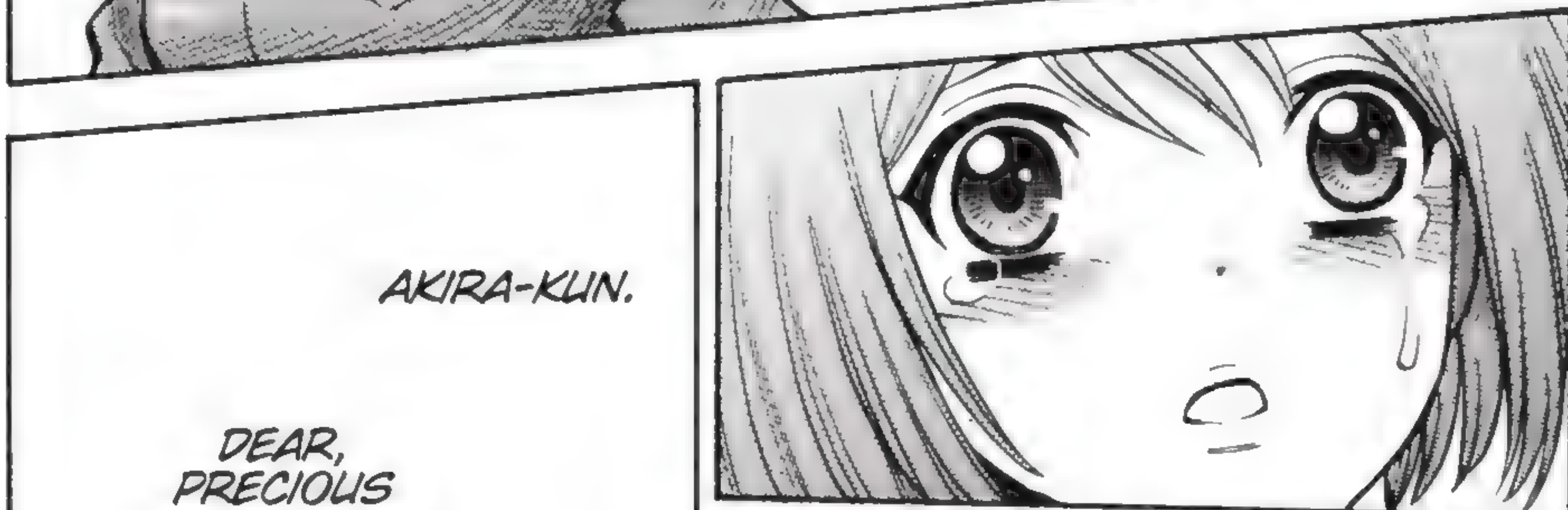
HE WAS
THE FIRST
ONE TO
NOTICE.

THE
FIRST
ONE TO
UNDER-
STAND
JUST
HOW
LONELY
I
WAS...



I BET
YOU'RE
GOING
THROUGH
A LOT OF
CRAP,
AND IT'S
GOTTA
SUCK!

I KNOW
HOW
IT FEELS.
THAT'S
WHAT I
WANTED
TO SAY.



AKIRA-KUN.

DEAR,
PRECIOUS
AKIRA-KUN.

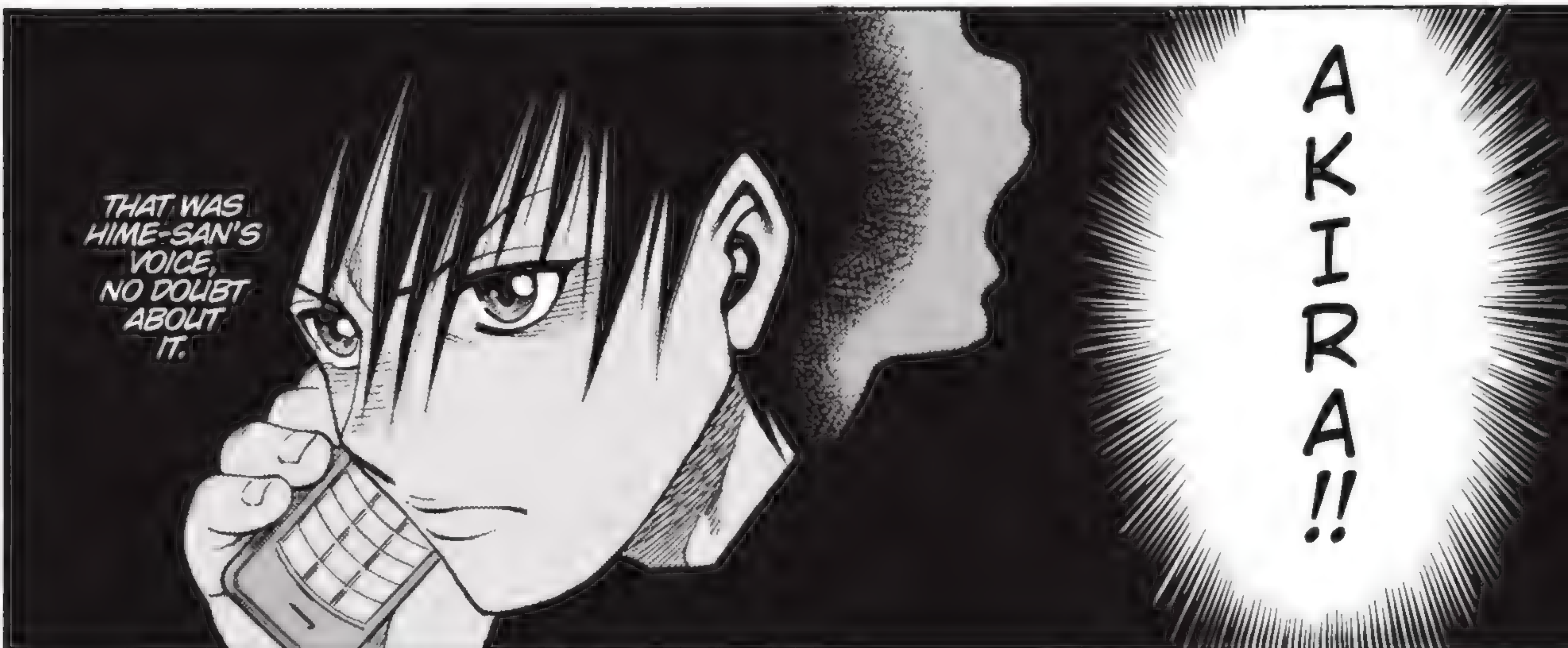


AH!

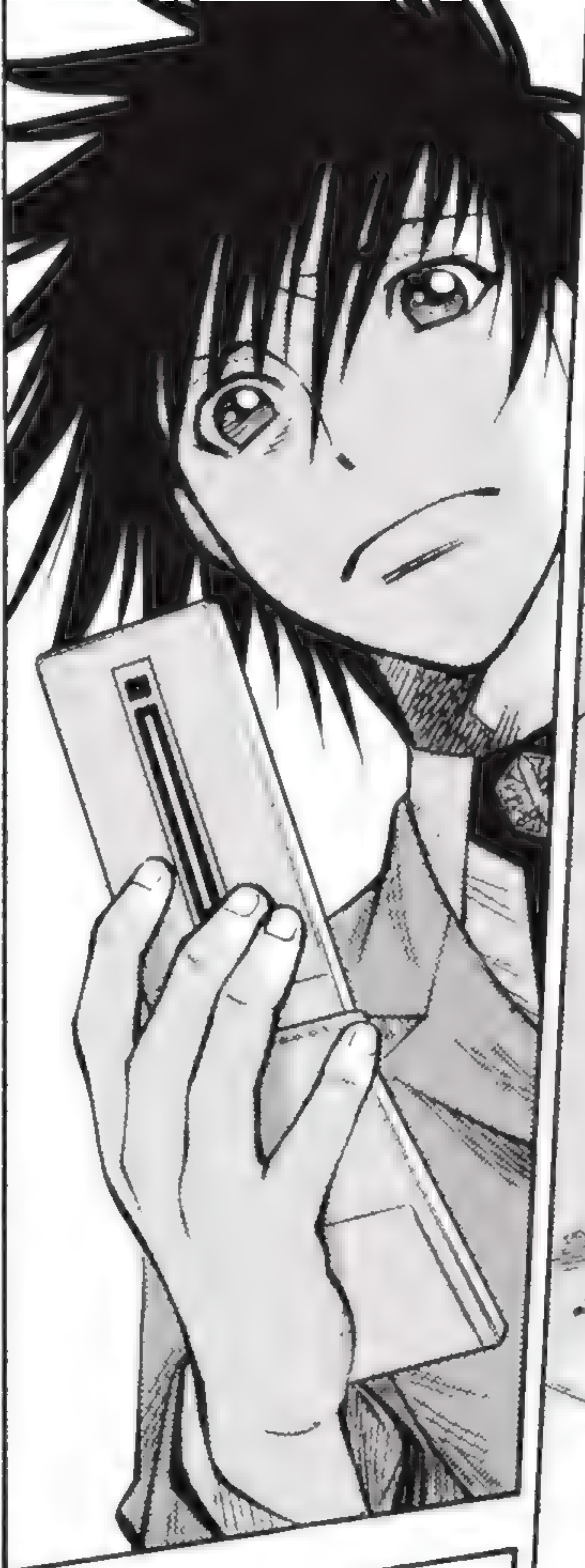
HUH
...?

OH
...

CRAP!
I'M
SORRY,
SAEGUSA!
I
DIDN'T
MEAN
TO!







TRUST
YOUR
IN-
STINCTS.



AKIRA IS
PHYSICALLY
INCAPABLE
OF
DOUBTING
ME...

WELL,
NOT ME
PER SE,
BUT
MINA.

ACT.
YOU'RE
THE ONLY
ONE
WHO'S
REALLY
WITH HER
RIGHT
NOW.

I'VE
TOLD
YOU
ONCE,
AND
I'LL
TELL
YOU
AGAIN.



BUT EVEN I CAN BE PROVEN WRONG SOMETIMES. HIS LITTLE REVOLT YIELDED UNEXPECTED FRUIT.



I WAS THE ONE WHO CONVINCED HIM TO DO IT, OF COURSE.

HOWEVER, I DID NOT DO SO EXPECTING ANY KIND OF WORTH-WHILE RESULTS OUT OF IT.

JEAN MARAIS WAS CHARISMATIC, YES, BUT HARDLY INTELLIGENT. HIS MIND WAS AS SHARP AS A BOWL OF TAPIOCA PUDDING.



HE FELT BETRAYED, YOU SEE, FOR THE TRUE FACE OF THE ONE HE LOVED WAS NOTHING AT ALL WHAT HE THOUGHT IT TO BE.

HIS NAÏVE HEART BRUISED, HE LASHED OUT AT HER. AH, THE UNKNOWING CRUELTY OF THE INNOCENT...

I HAVEN'T DAMAGED

YOU JUST DIDN'T KNOW ME.

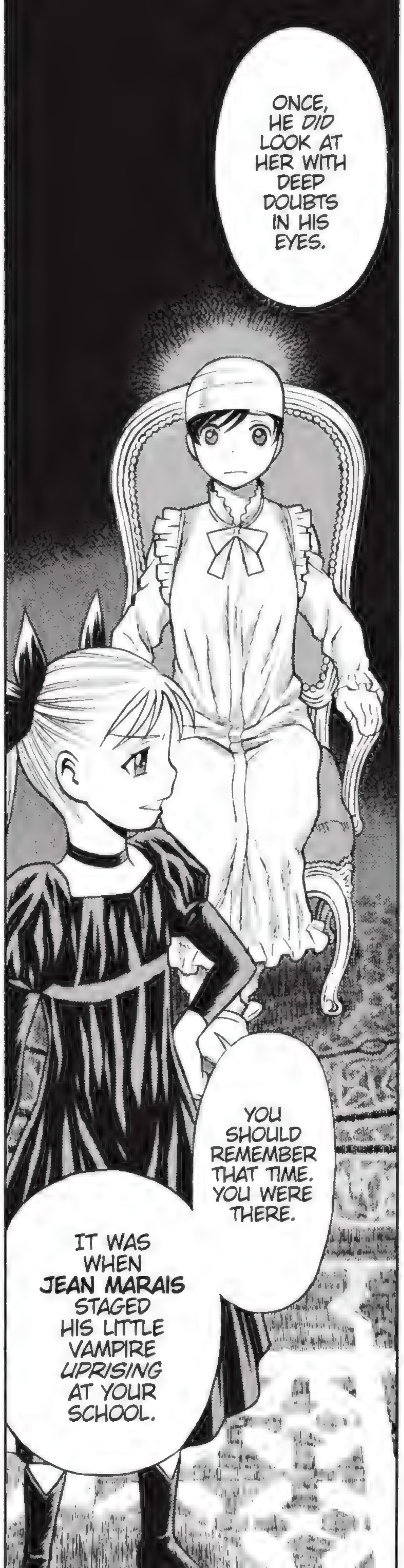
HORRIFIED BY MINA'S ACTIONS, AKIRA TURNED HIS BACK ON HER. ABANDONED HER.



FAR MORE THAN HE REALIZED.

HE HONESTLY AND TRULY HURT HER. BADLY.

HE HURT HER.



ONCE, HE DID LOOK AT HER WITH DEEP DOUBTS IN HIS EYES.

YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT TIME. YOU WERE THERE.

IT WAS WHEN JEAN MARAIS STAGED HIS LITTLE VAMPIRE UPRISING AT YOUR SCHOOL.



AND IT WAS FROM THAT INNOCENCE THAT HIS HARSH WORDS CAME. WORDS THAT SHONE A MERCILESS SPOTLIGHT ON THE DARKNESS IN MINA'S SOUL AND REVEILED HER FOR IT.

SHE WAS PRO-FOUNDLY SHAMED AND DEEPLY DEPRESSED, NEITHER A FEELING SHE WAS ACCUS-TOMED TO...

HIS INNOCENCE, HIS VERY EXISTENCE WAS A MUCH-NEEDED TOUCHSTONE FOR HER.



FOR MINA, WHO HAD LIVED THE WHOLE OF HER LIFE IN BLOOD-SOAKED DARKNESS, AKIRA WAS THE BREAKING LIGHT OF DAWN.



AKIRA HAD UNWIT-TINGLY DRIVEN MINA INTO A CORNER.

WHEN AKIRA FINALLY REALIZED WHAT HE HAD DONE... OH, HOW GREAT THE SHOCK OF IT MUST HAVE BEEN.

SHE WAS DESPERATE ENOUGH TO WANT TO DIE.

HOW DO I KNOW ALL THIS, YOU ASK?

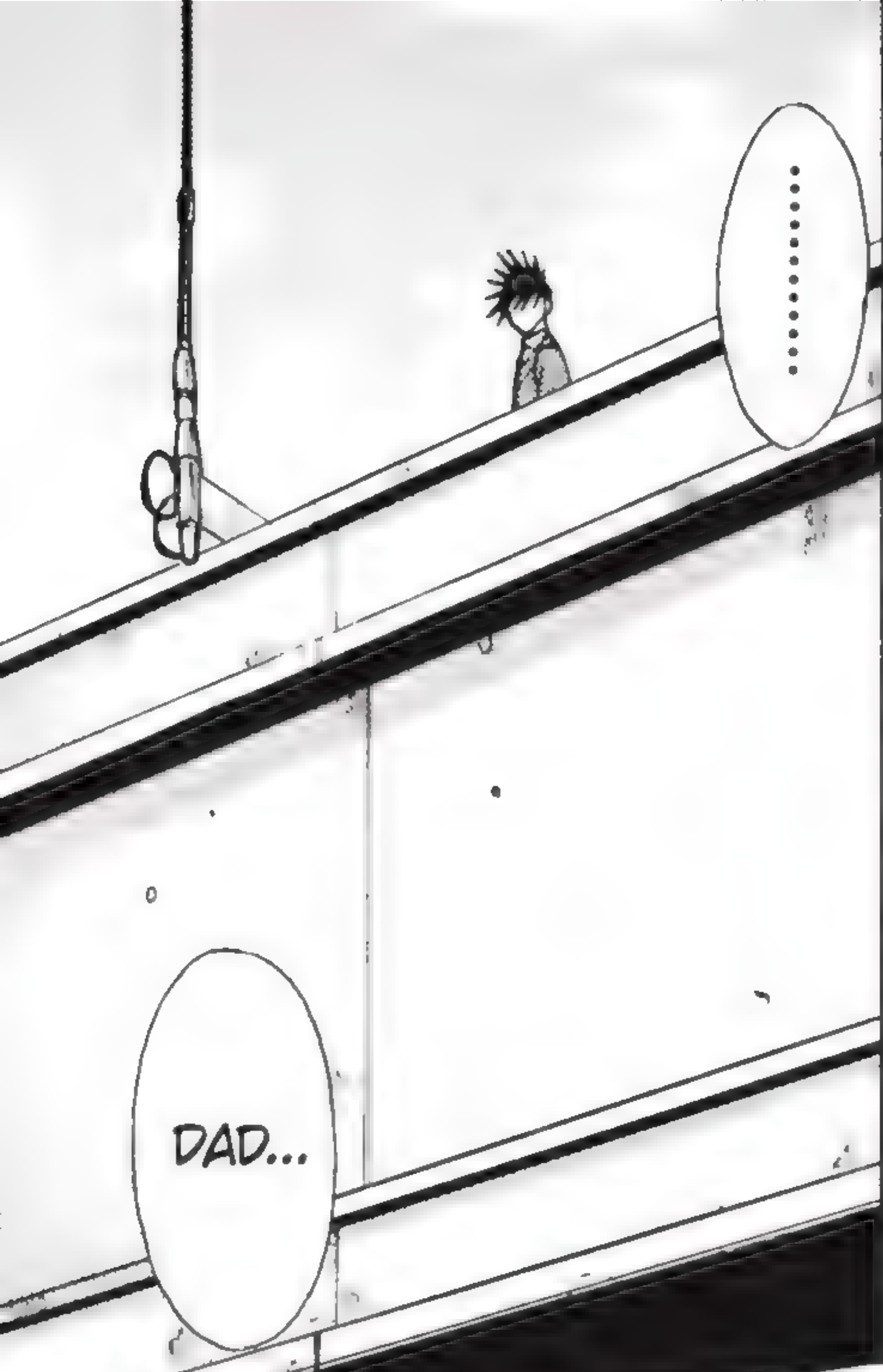
EASILY.

I READ MINA'S MIND.

IF SHE WAS TO LOSE THE ONE THING THAT MADE HER LIFE WORTH LIVING-- AKIRA--THEN SHE WOULD RATHER DIE AT HIS HAND THAN SUFFER WITHOUT HIM...

WHEN THE TWO FINALLY FOUGHT IN THE CHAPEL, MINA WANTED TO DIE...





DAD...



WHAT
AM I
SUPPOSED
TO DO
NOW...?

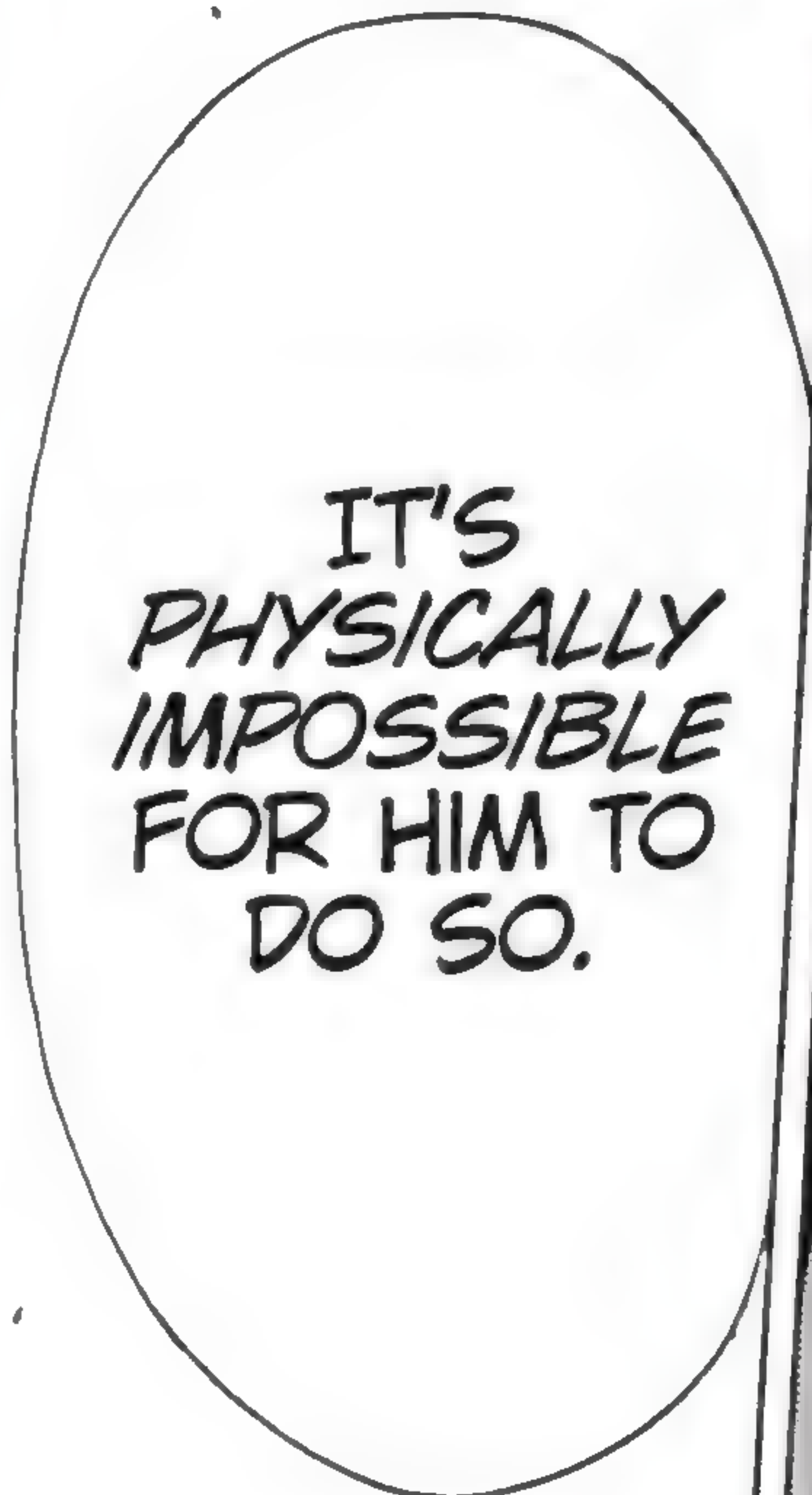


AS LONG
AS THAT
FEAR RESIDES
WITHIN HIM,
HE WILL NEVER
SUSPECT ME OF
ANYTHING.

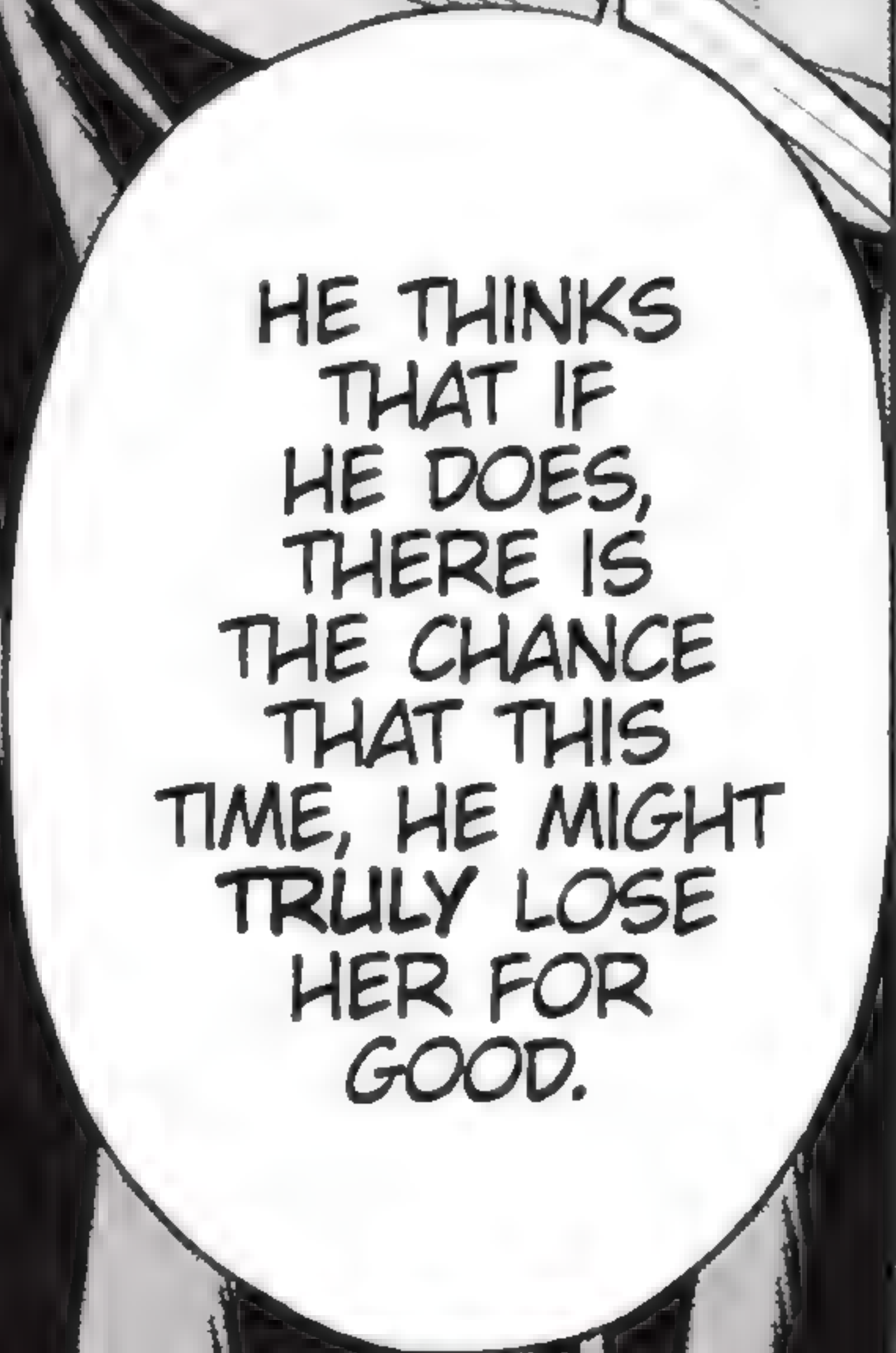


HE WAS
HURT.
TRAUMATI-
CALLY SO.

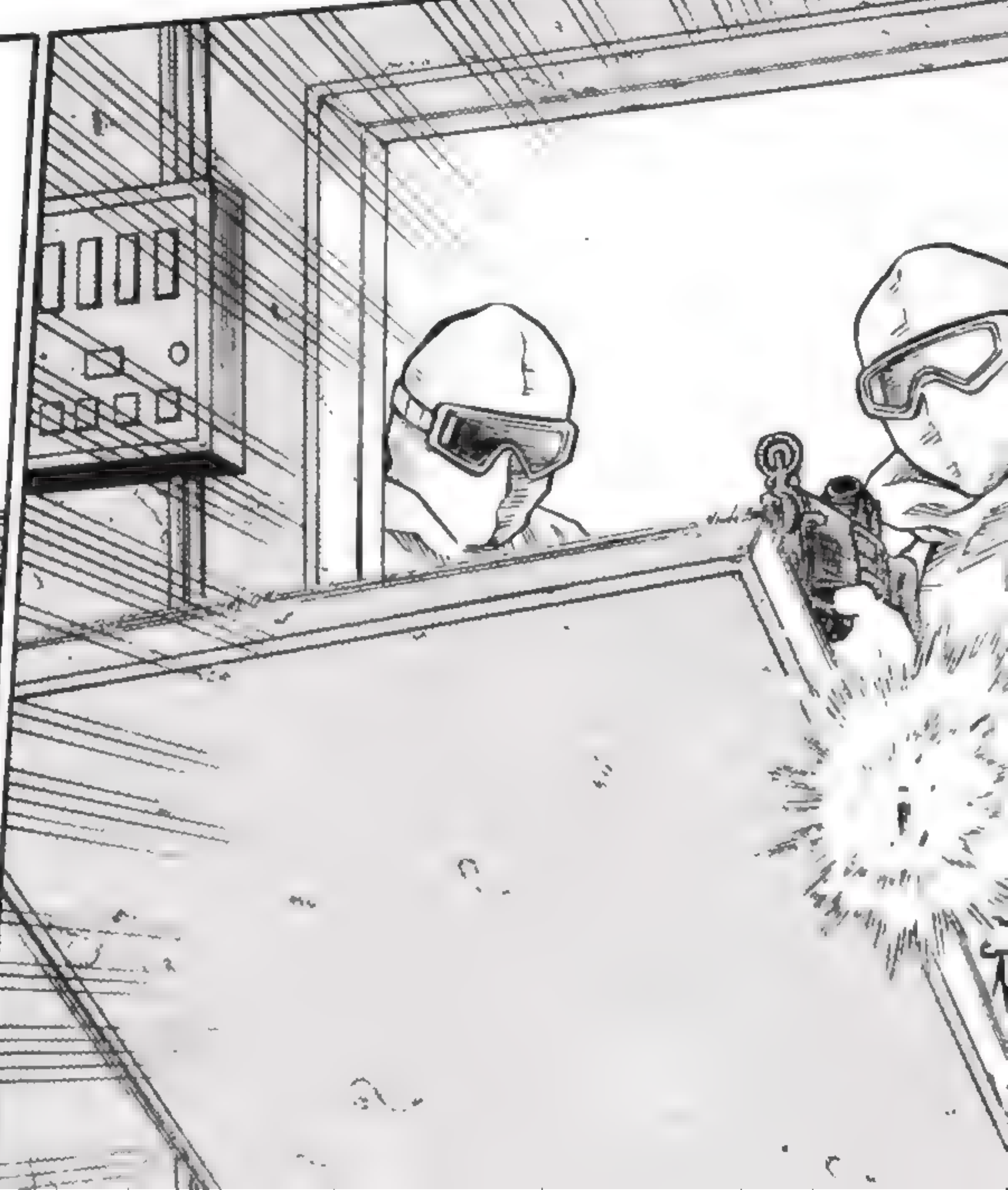
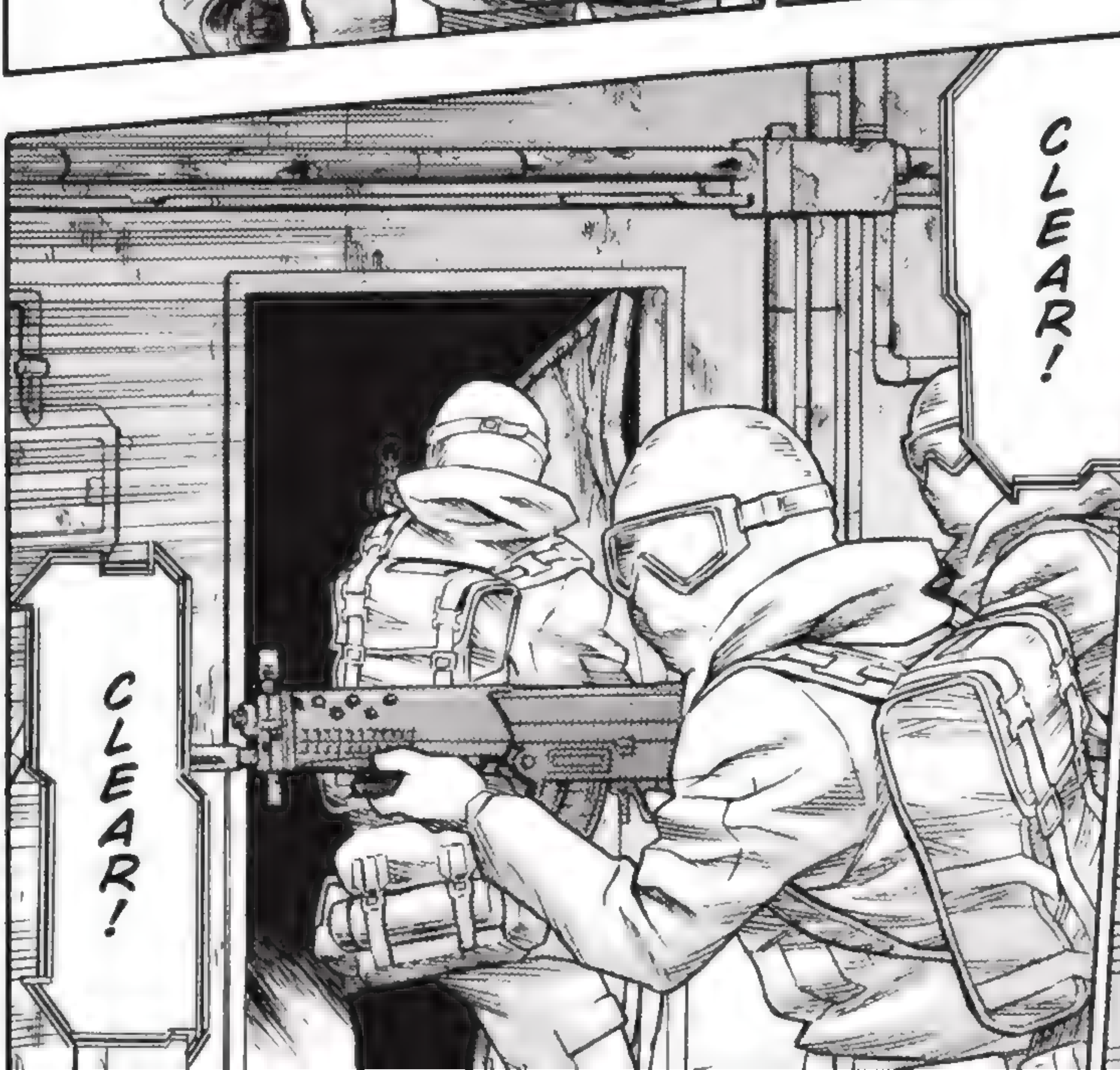
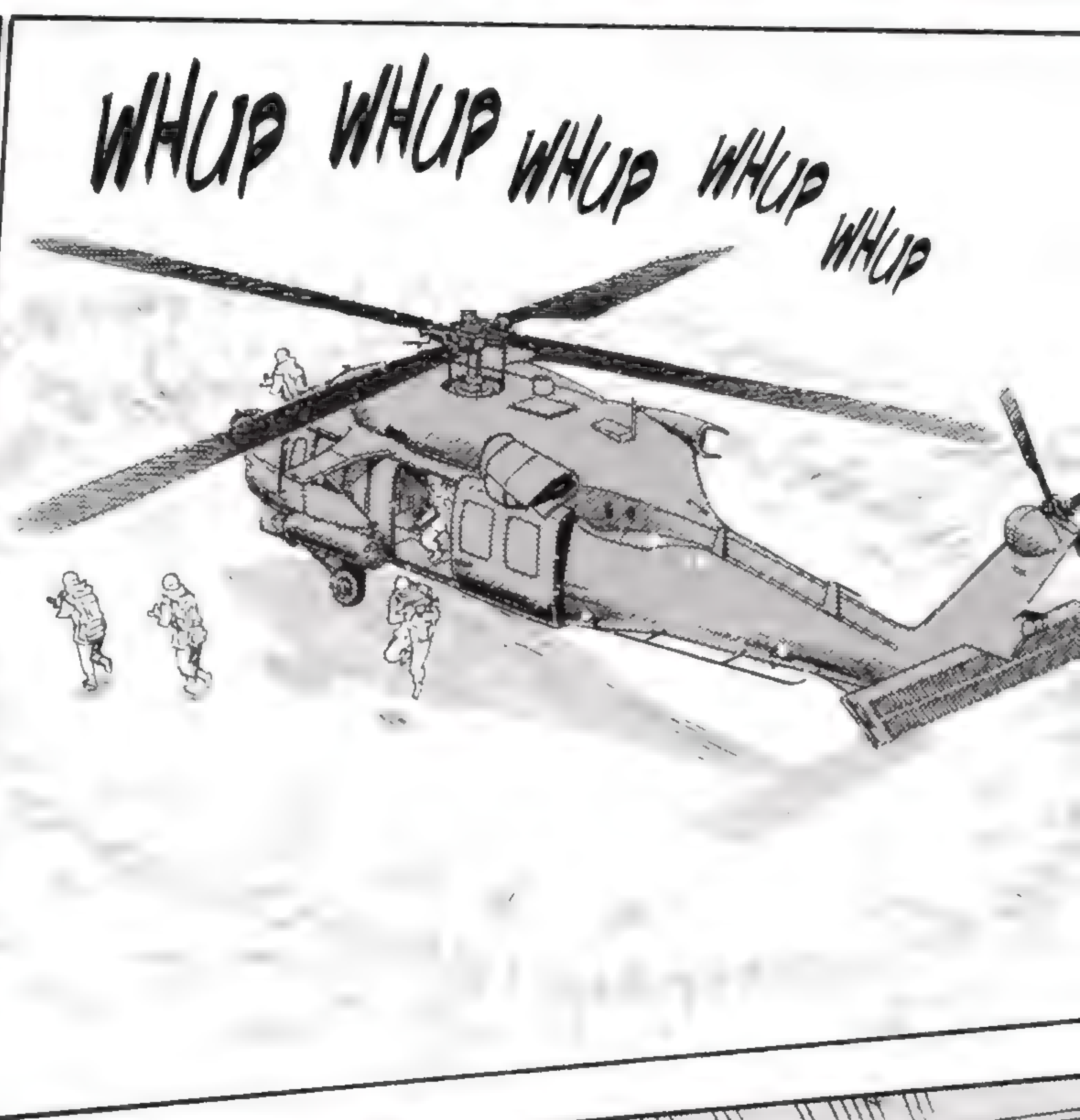
HE
CANNOT
DOUBT
MINA
AGAIN.
IT'S A
SELF-
DEFENSE
MECHA-
NISM.

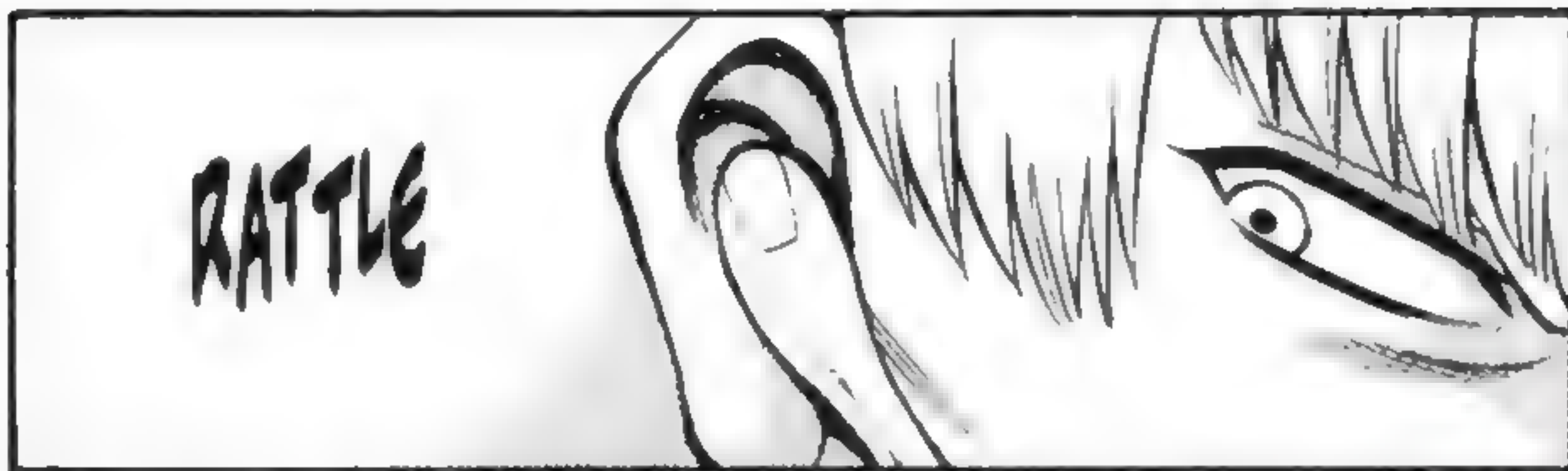


IT'S
PHYSICALLY
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR HIM TO
DO SO.



HE THINKS
THAT IF
HE DOES,
THERE IS
THE CHANCE
THAT THIS
TIME, HE MIGHT
TRULY LOSE
HER FOR
GOOD.





RATTLE



SHAK SHAK



DAMN. WHOLE PLACE IS EMPTY.

OUR LEAD PROVES FALSE, THEN...



INCOMING COMMUNICATION FROM THE STRIKE SQUAD, SIR!



DO NOT SHOOT.

.....

COME OUT SLOWLY, AND WITH YOUR HANDS UP!



NO, SIR.
NABOKOV
WASN'T
HERE.

.....
BUT HE
DID
LEAVE A
MESSAGE
FOR US.



HAVE YOU
CAPTURED
GENERAL
NABOKOV
?

IT'S
ME.



OPEN
DIA-
LOGUE
?

DON'T
YOU MEAN
YOU WANT
TO OPEN
NEGOTIA-
TIONS?



I MADE
NO MISTAKE.
AS THE
FUTURE OF
BOTH CLAN
IVANOVIC AND
CLAN TEPEŠ
IS IN PERIL,
IT IS A
"DIALOGUE."

PLEASE,
AT LEAST
CONSIDER
OUR
OFFER.



GREETINGS,
SIR. I AM
NADYENKA
NAKHODKA
...

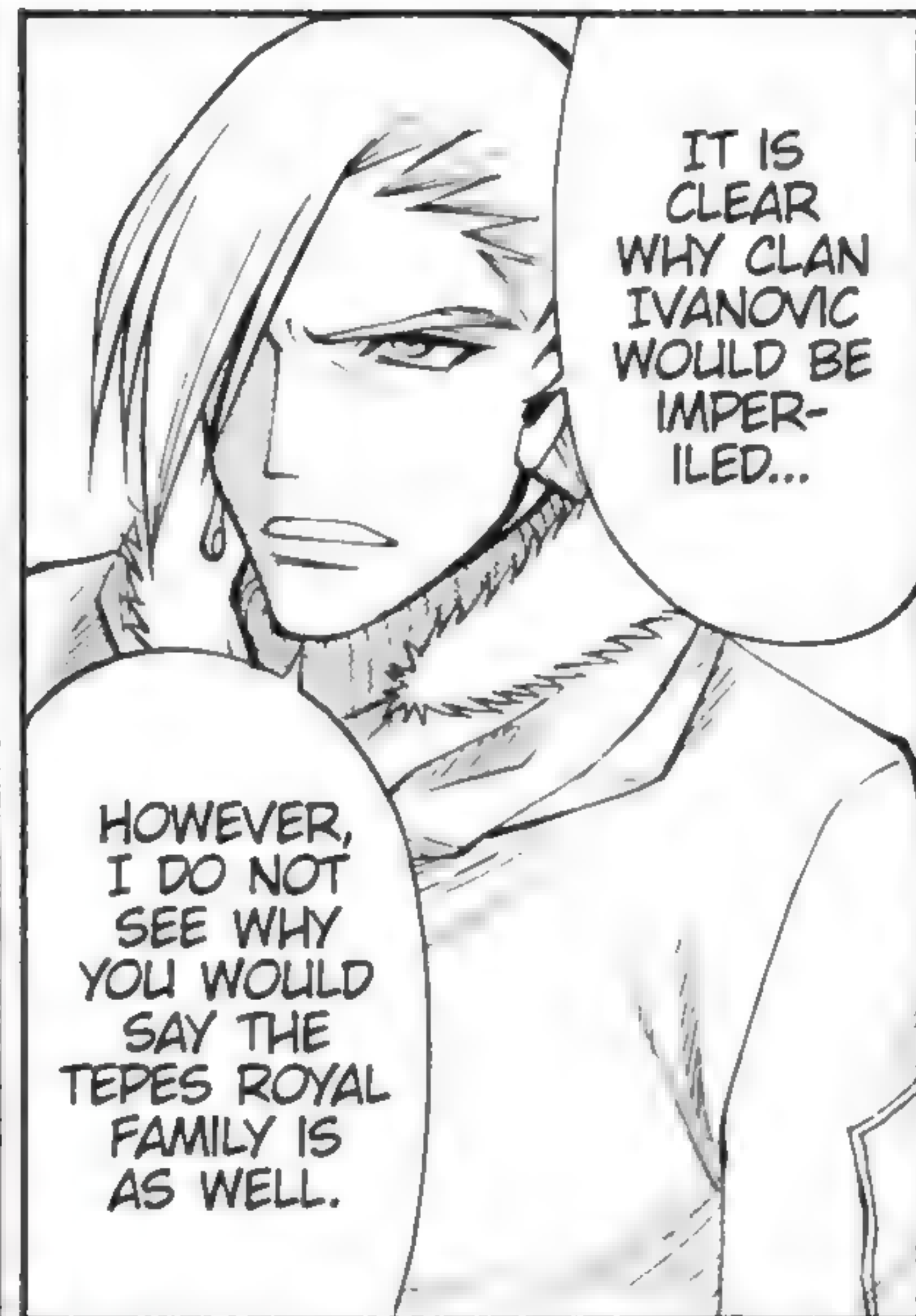
FIRST
LIEUTEN-
ANT OF
GENERAL
NABOKOV'S
IRREGULAR
INFANTRY
BATTALION.

MY
SUPERIOR
OFFICERS
RESPECTFULLY
REQUEST
AN OPEN
DIALOGUE
WITH THE
COMMANDING
OFFICERS OF
THE ARMY
OF CLAN
TEPEŠ.



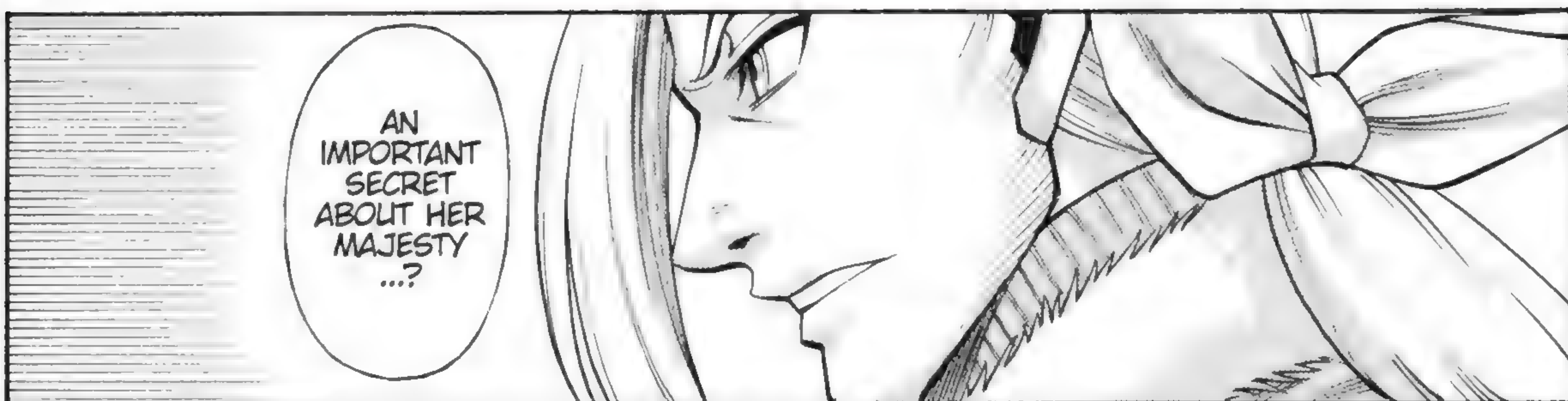
TO FACILITATE THIS, HE IS PREPARED TO REVEAL A VERY IMPORTANT SECRET THAT PERTAINS TO YOUR MISTRESS, THE PRINCESS MINA.

THE GENERAL GREATLY WISHES OUR DIALOGUE TO BE A PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL ONE...



IT IS CLEAR WHY CLAN IVANOVIC WOULD BE IMPERILED...

HOWEVER, I DO NOT SEE WHY YOU WOULD SAY THE TEPE'S ROYAL FAMILY IS AS WELL.



AN IMPORTANT SECRET ABOUT HER MAJESTY ...?



VERY WELL. ESCORT THEM TO OUR BASE.



FOR
THERE IS
ONE THING
I JUST
CANNOT
UNDER-
STAND.

TELL ME
SOMETHING,
YUKI.

ONE IS THE
MAN WHO
ABANDONED
YOU FOR
ANOTHER.
THE OTHER IS
THE WOMAN
WHO **STOLE**
HIM FROM
YOU.

WHY
ARE YOU
STILL
FRIENDS
WITH
THEM?

HEH...
TO BE
HONEST,
I THINK
IT MAY BE
A BIT OF
BOTH.
ISN'T IT?

OR ARE
YOU INSTEAD
A BEGGAR,
DESPERATELY
CLINGING TO
THEM BOTH IN
THE HOPE THAT
THEY MAY DEIGN
TO SEND SOME
SCRAPS OF
AFFECTION
YOUR WAY?

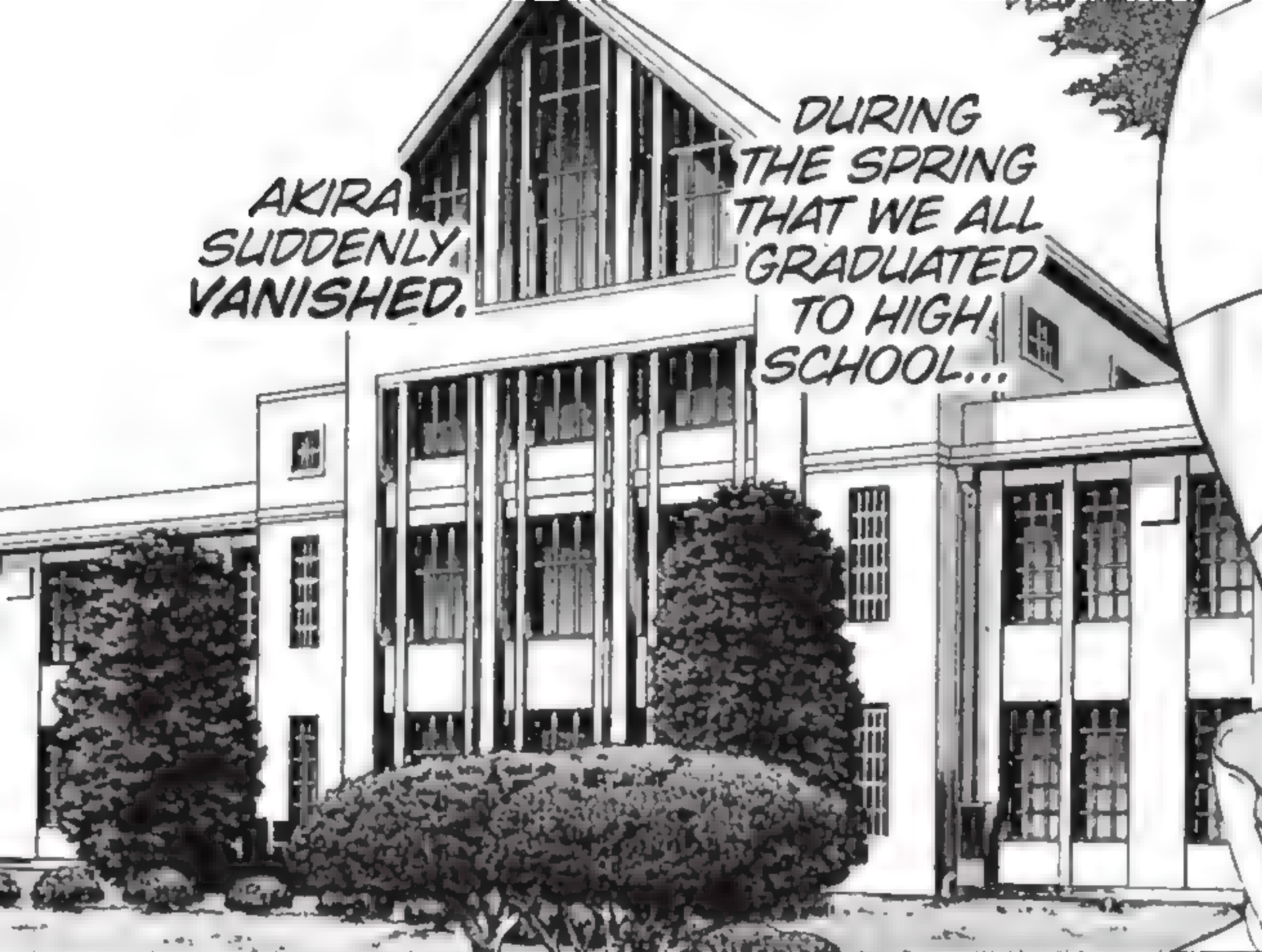
ARE YOU
SIMPLY
THAT
STUPID?

WHAT IS
SHE TO
YOU?

WHAT
IS HE
TO YOU,
ANYWAY
?

AKIRA
SUDDENLY
VANISHED.

DURING
THE SPRING
THAT WE ALL
GRADUATED
TO HIGH
SCHOOL...



I REALIZED
SOMETHING
THEN.



I KNEW THAT
HE HAD SEEN
SOMETHING--
LOOKED INTO
A WORLD--
THAT NONE
OF THE REST
OF US WOULD
EVER KNOW.

I WAS
DESPERATE
TO MAKE
HIM TURN
AND LOOK
BACK AT
US--
AT ME.

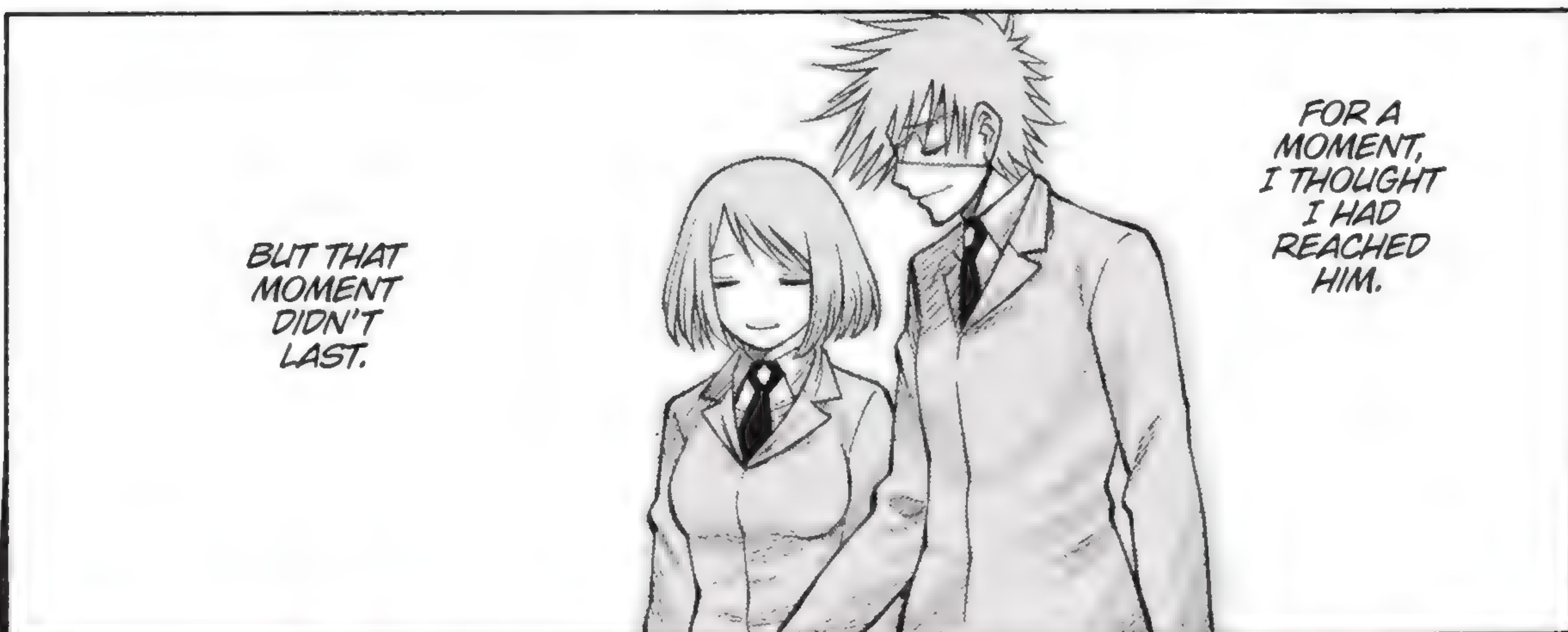
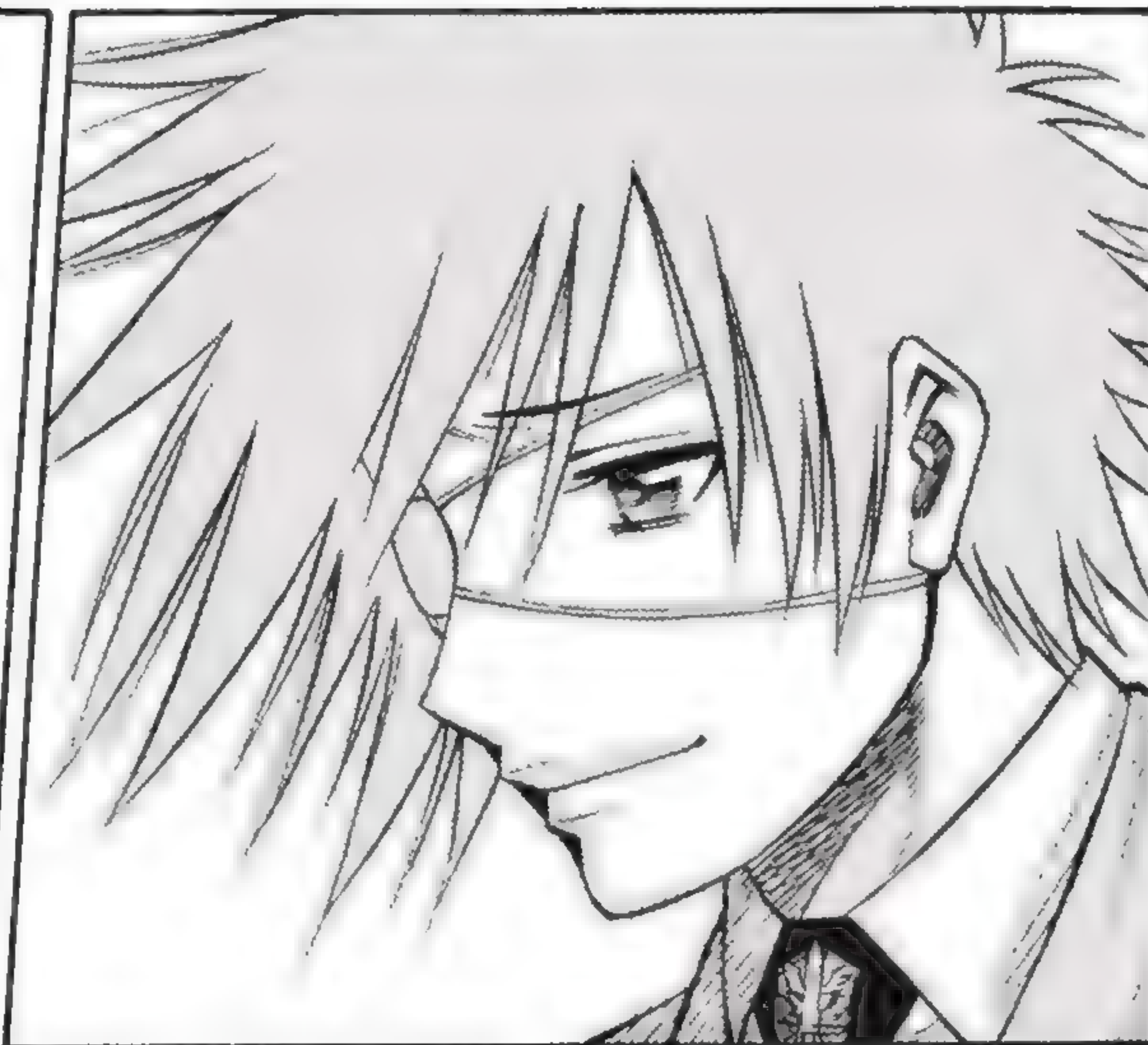
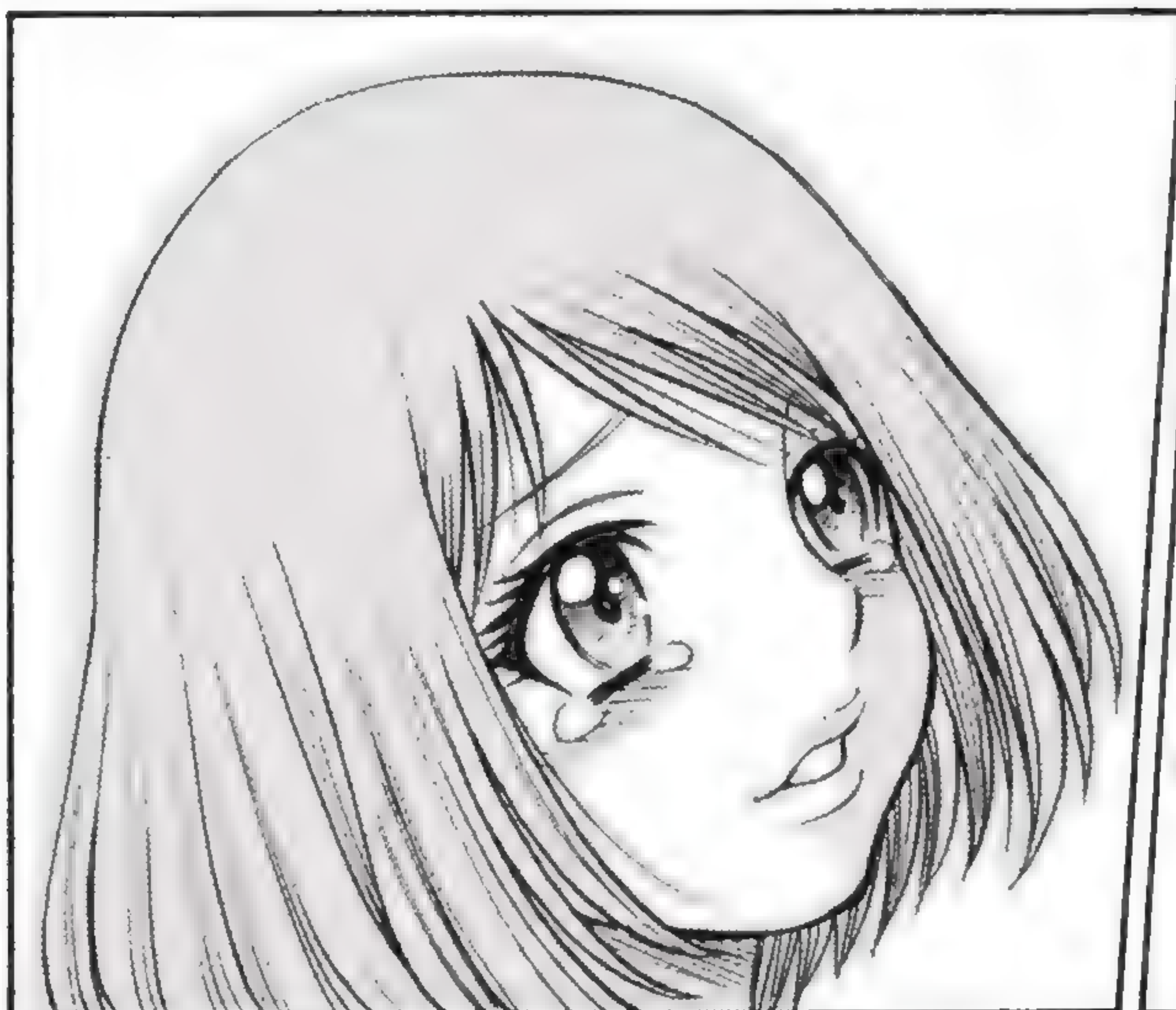


I HAD TO DO
SOMETHING,
ANYTHING,
TO TRY AND
KEEP HIM
HERE.

BUT HE
DIDN'T COME
BACK THE
SAME
PERSON
HE WAS
WHEN HE
LEFT.

HE LEFT
WITHOUT A
WORD, AND
RETURNED
MONTHS
LATER,
WITHOUT
A WORD.





BUT THAT
MOMENT
DIDN'T
LAST.

FOR A
MOMENT,
I THOUGHT
I HAD
REACHED
HIM.

I...
CAN'T
GO OUT
WITH
YOU,
YUKI.

I'M
SORRY.

**INDEPENDENT NATION BUILT
ON ISLAND IN TOKYO BAY**

Inhabitants Straight Out Of Fairy Tales—VAMPIRES!

THAT I
FINALLY
DISCOVERED
WHO HAD
STOLEN HIM
FROM ME.

IT
WASN'T
UNTIL
LATER...

THEY REALLY EXIST?!

ISN'T
THAT
AKIRA
?!

WHOA,
LOOK!



THAT'S
WHEN I
LEARNED
ANOTHER
THING...

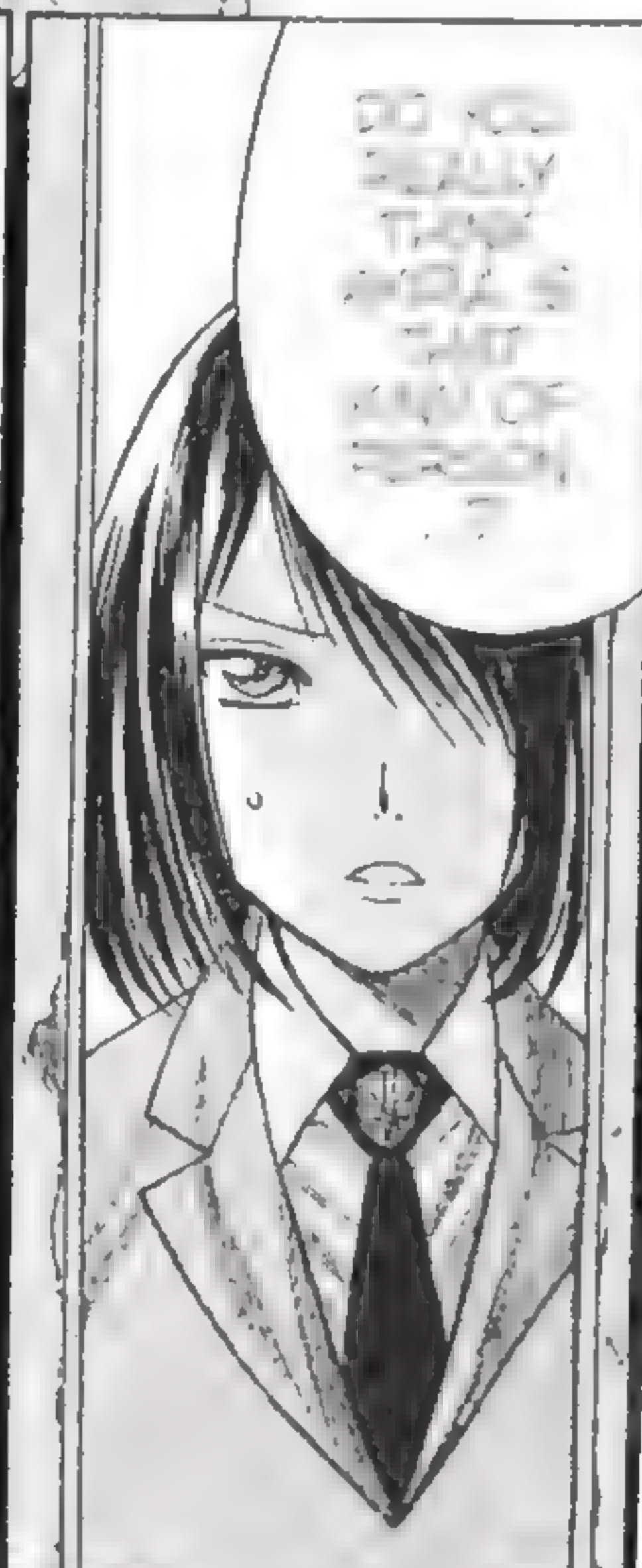
YOU'RE
NOT
BEING
FAIR!!



FOR THE
FIRST TIME
IN MY LIFE,
I FELT A
NAMELESS
EMOTION START
BUBBLING UP
FROM SOME-
WHERE DEEP
INSIDE.



WHAT?



DO YOU
REALLY
THINK
AKIRA IS
THAT
KIND OF
PERSON?



IT WAS AN
UGLY FEELING,
BLACK AND
THICK AS
PITCH. I TRIED
TO HOLD IT
BACK, BUT IT
JUST KEPT...
SQUEEZING
OUT BETWEEN
MY FINGERS.

HOW
DO YOU
THINK
AKIRA-
KUN
FEELS
...?



MINA
TEPES.

THE MAN
I LOVED
HAD BEEN
HERS IN
BODY
AND SOUL
FROM THE
SECOND
HE WAS
BORN.



HATRED.

DESIRE.

THE SAME
FEELINGS
AS YOURS
HIDE
WITHIN ME
AS WELL,
I ASSURE
YOU.

THE
INSATIABLE
NEED TO
REGAIN
WHAT WAS
DENIED ME,
AND TO HAVE
REVENGE
UPON THOSE
WHO STOLE
IT...



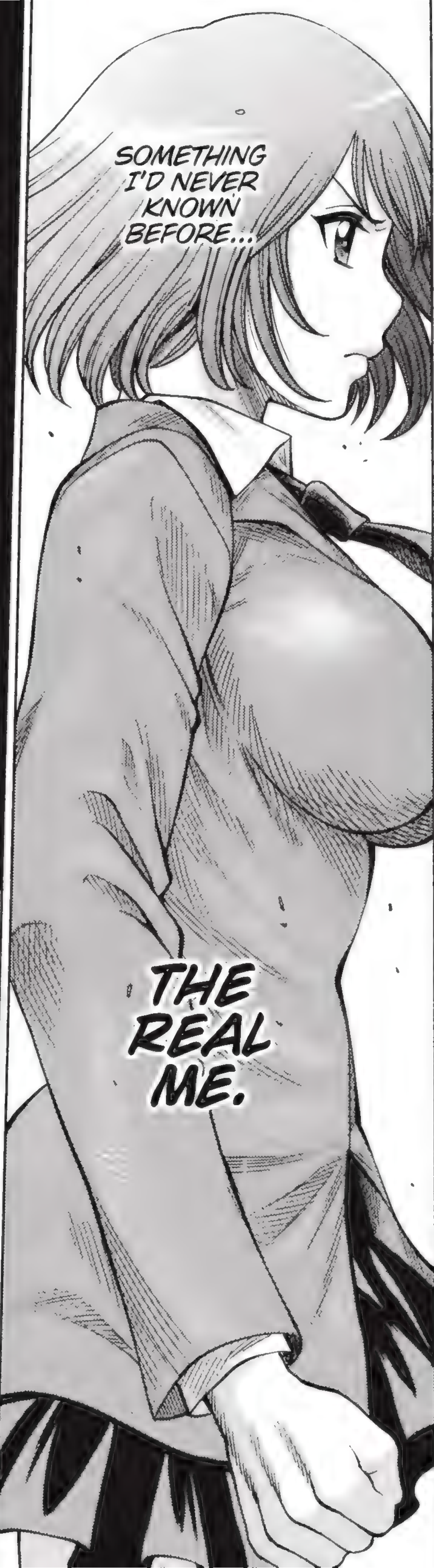
YOU
NEEDN'T
SAY A
THING.
I
UNDER-
STAND.

I
KNOW
WHAT
IT IS
LIKE,
YUKI.



IF I HAD
AN AVATAR
I COULD
TRANSFORM
INTO,
I WONDER
WHAT IT
WOULD BE.

GIVEN
WHAT
I SAW OF
MYSELF
THEN,
IT WOULD BE
SOMETHING
UGLY AND
MONSTROUS
FOR SURE.



SOMETHING
I'D NEVER
KNOWN
BEFORE...

**THE
REAL
ME.**



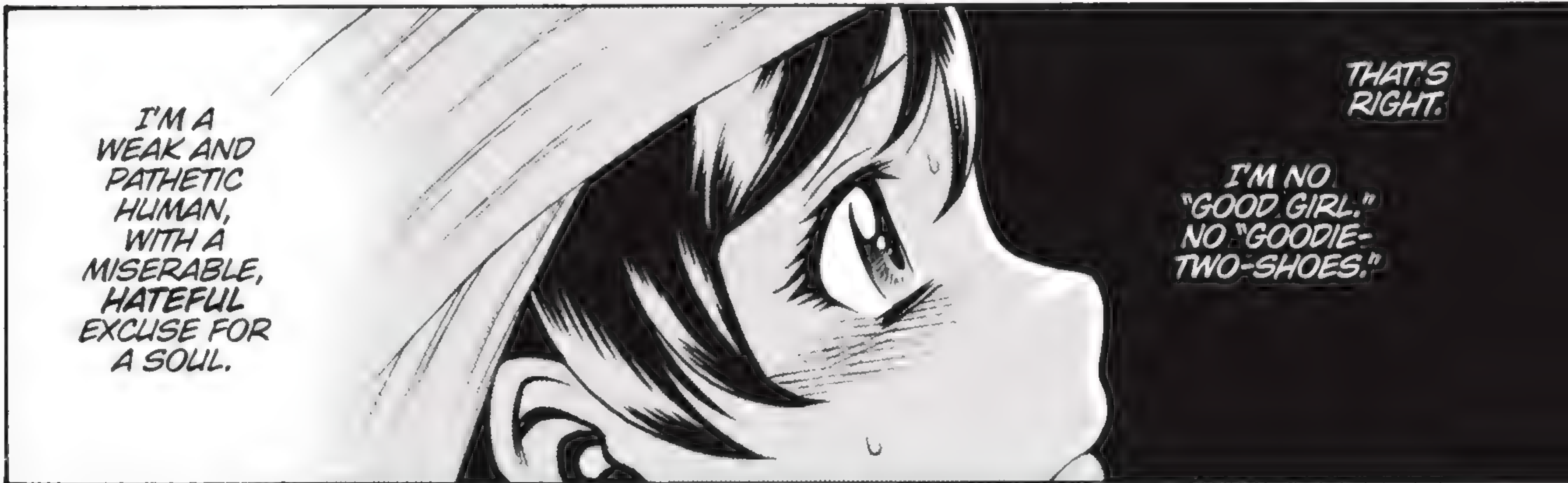
FRIENDS,
YUKI.

I DO
NOT
KILL MY
FRIENDS.



THEN,
WE
SHALL BE
FRIENDS.

NOD, YUKI.
SIMPLY NOD
TO TELL ME
THAT YOU
UNDERSTAND,
TOO.



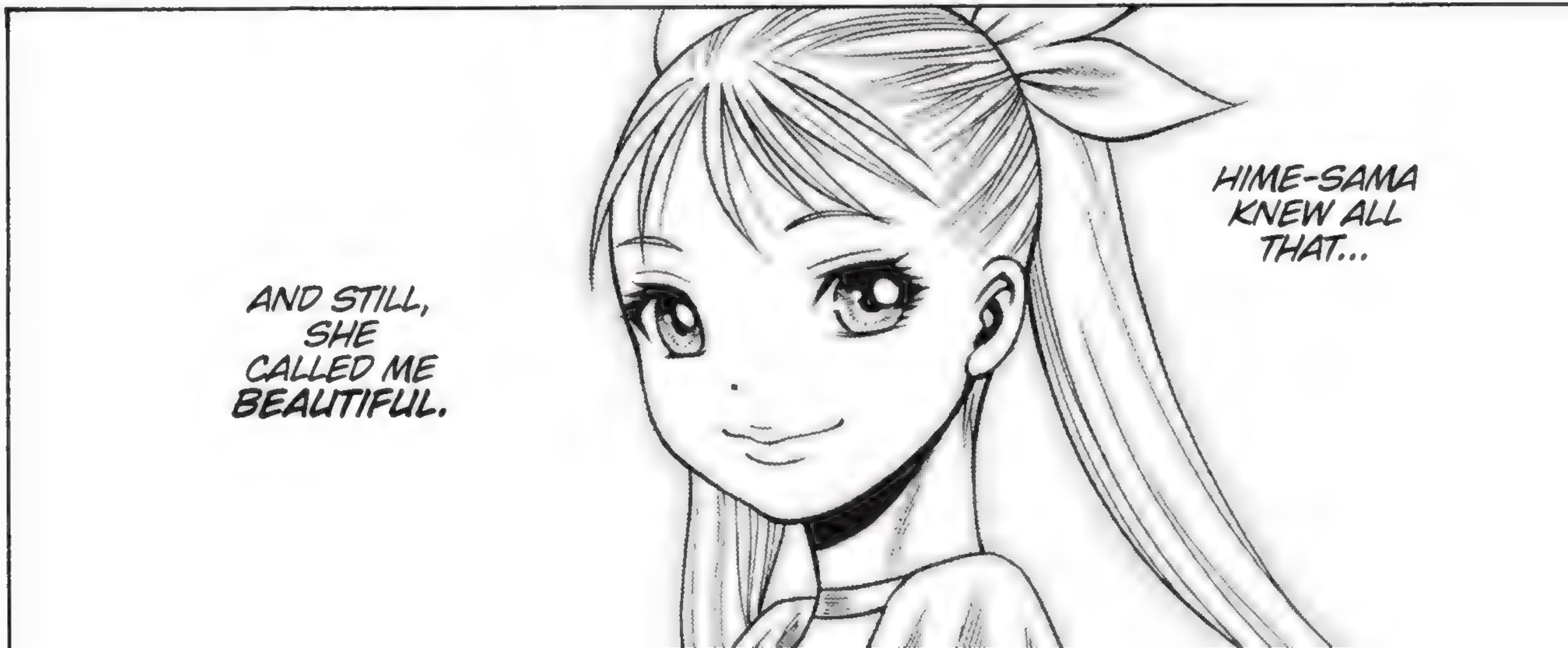
I'M A
WEAK AND
PATHETIC
HUMAN,
WITH A
MISERABLE,
HATEFUL
EXCUSE FOR
A SOUL.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

I'M NO
"GOOD GIRL."
NO "GOODIE-
TWO-SHOES."



BUT...



AND STILL,
SHE
CALLED ME
BEAUTIFUL.

HIME-SAMA
KNEW ALL
THAT...



FOR THE
FIRST
TIME...

I MADE A
TRUE
FRIEND.
ONE WHO
ACCEPTED
ME FOR
WHO
I AM.

SHE
JUST
ACCEPTED
IT.
FORGAVE
IT.

I HID
NOTHING
FROM HER.
I THREW
MY RAGE
AND
HATRED
RIGHT
IN HER
FACE.



SHE
HUGGED
ME,
HELD
ME.



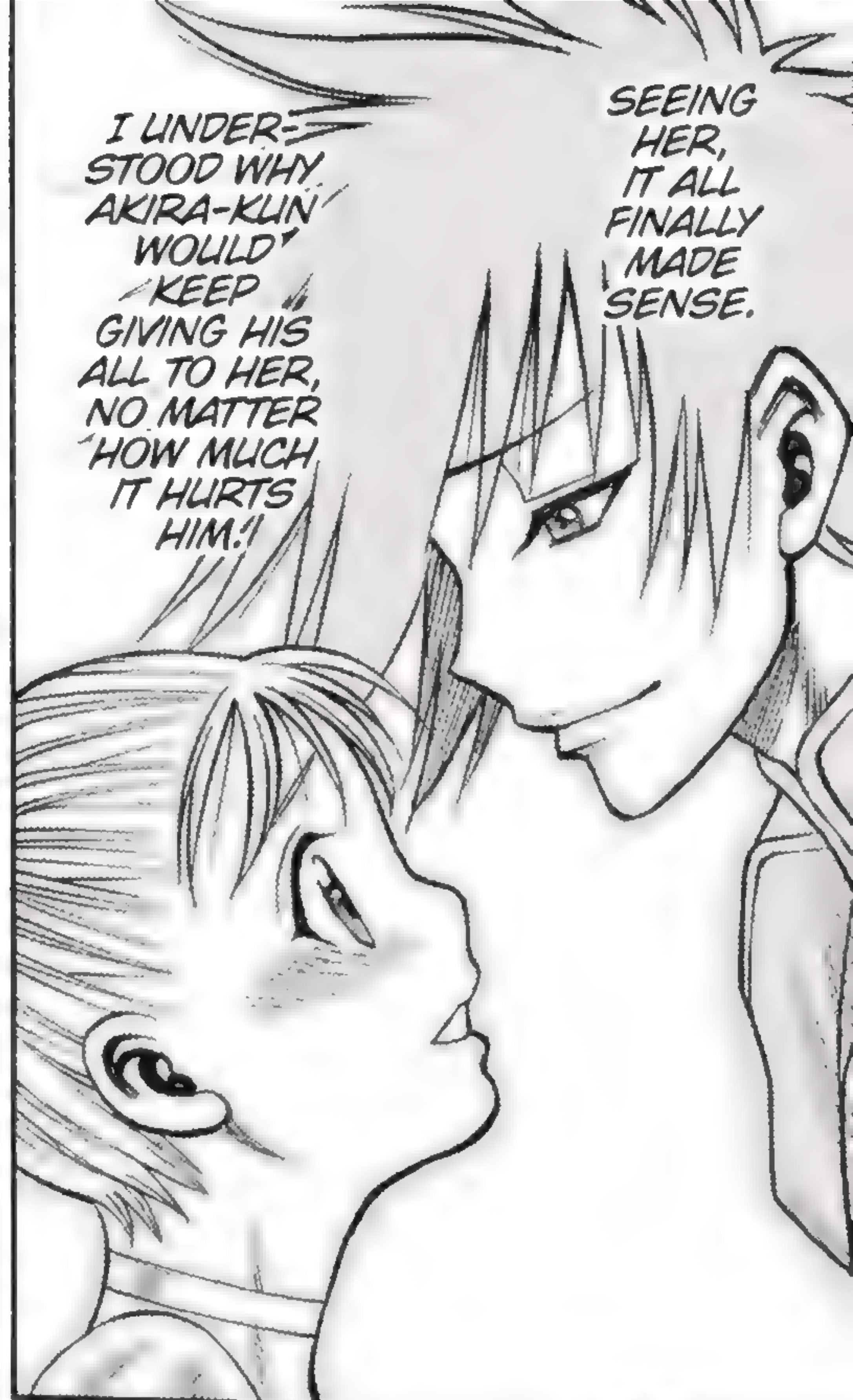
SHE SAW
THE FACE
I HADN'T
EVEN
SHOWN MY
MOTHER...

AND
GENTLY
LED IT
OUT INTO
THE
LIGHT.



STILL
FEELING
HONOR-
BOUND
TO DEFEND
THOSE
THIEVES
WHO RAN
ROUGHSHOD
ALL OVER
YOU?

WHAT?



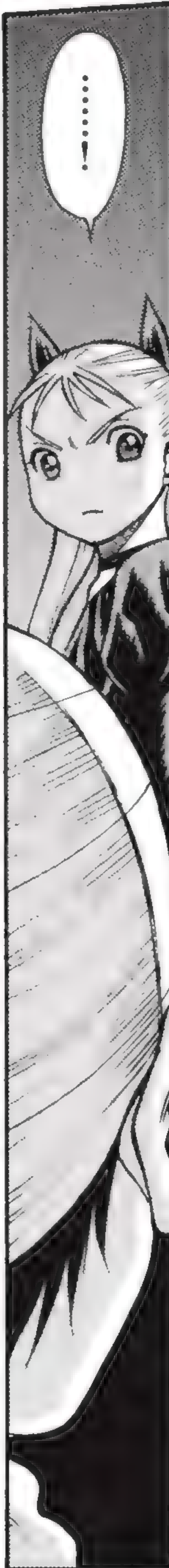
I UNDER-
STOOD WHY
AKIRA-KUN
WOULD
KEEP
GIVING HIS
ALL TO HER,
NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
IT HURTS
HIM.!

SEEING
HER,
IT ALL
FINALLY
MADE
SENSE.

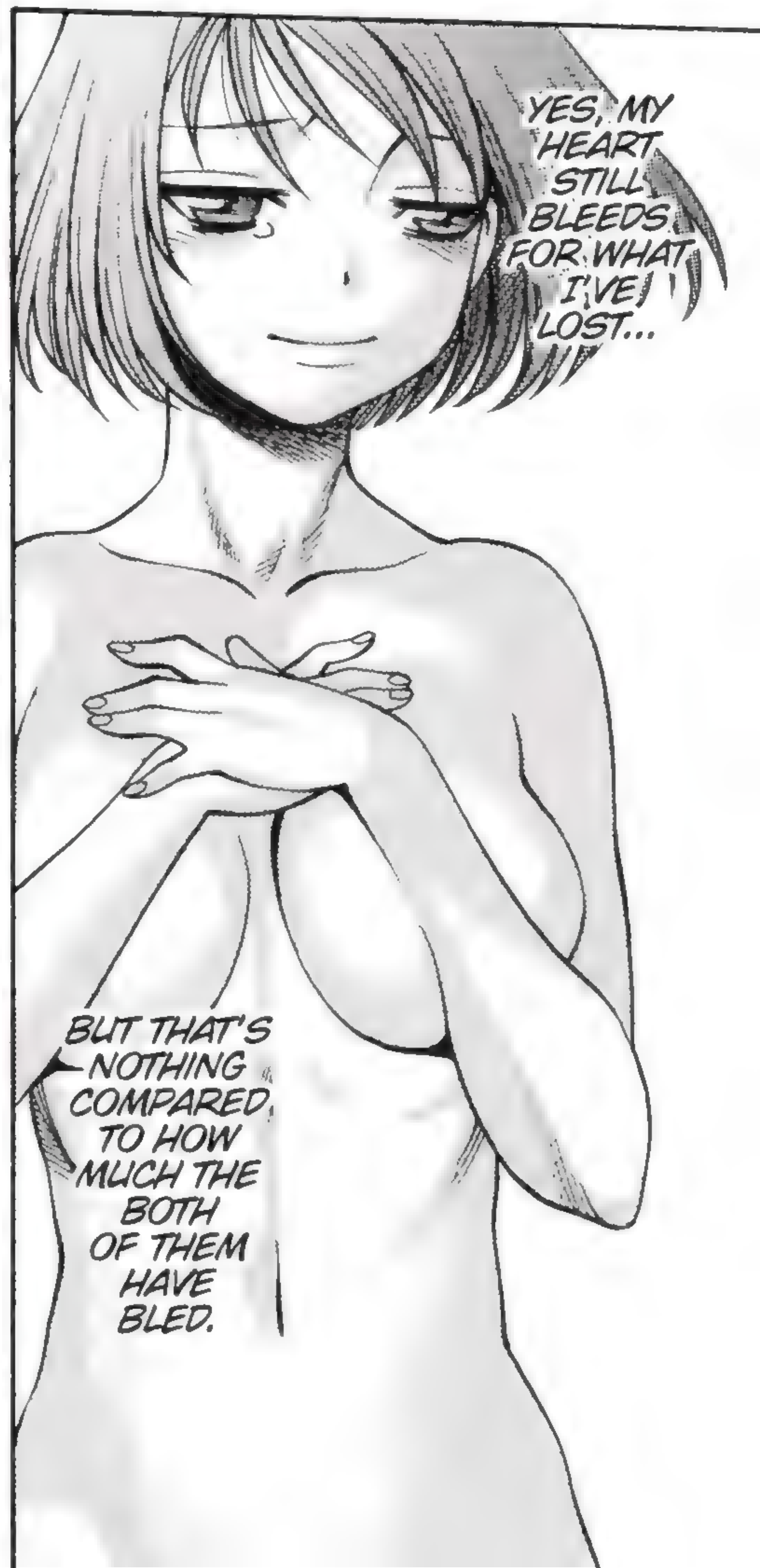


YOU
THINK
YOU
KNOW
EVERY-
THING...

BUT
WHAT
DO YOU
REALLY
KNOW
ABOUT
THOSE
TWO?



.....
!



YES, MY
HEART
STILL
BLEEDS
FOR WHAT
I'VE
LOST...

BUT THAT'S
NOTHING
COMPARED
TO HOW
MUCH THE
BOTH
OF THEM
HAVE
BLED.

SNEER

HN...
SO, I
GUESS THIS
MEANS MY
GENEROUS
OFFER OF
ALLIANCE
HAS BEEN
REFUSED.

WELL
THEN,
YOU REAP
WHAT
YOU SOW.
PREPARE
YOURSELF!

CLENCH

.....

WHAT
DO YOU
REALLY
UNDERSTAND
ABOUT US?
NOTHING!!

**YOU
AREN'T
GOING
TO WIN!**

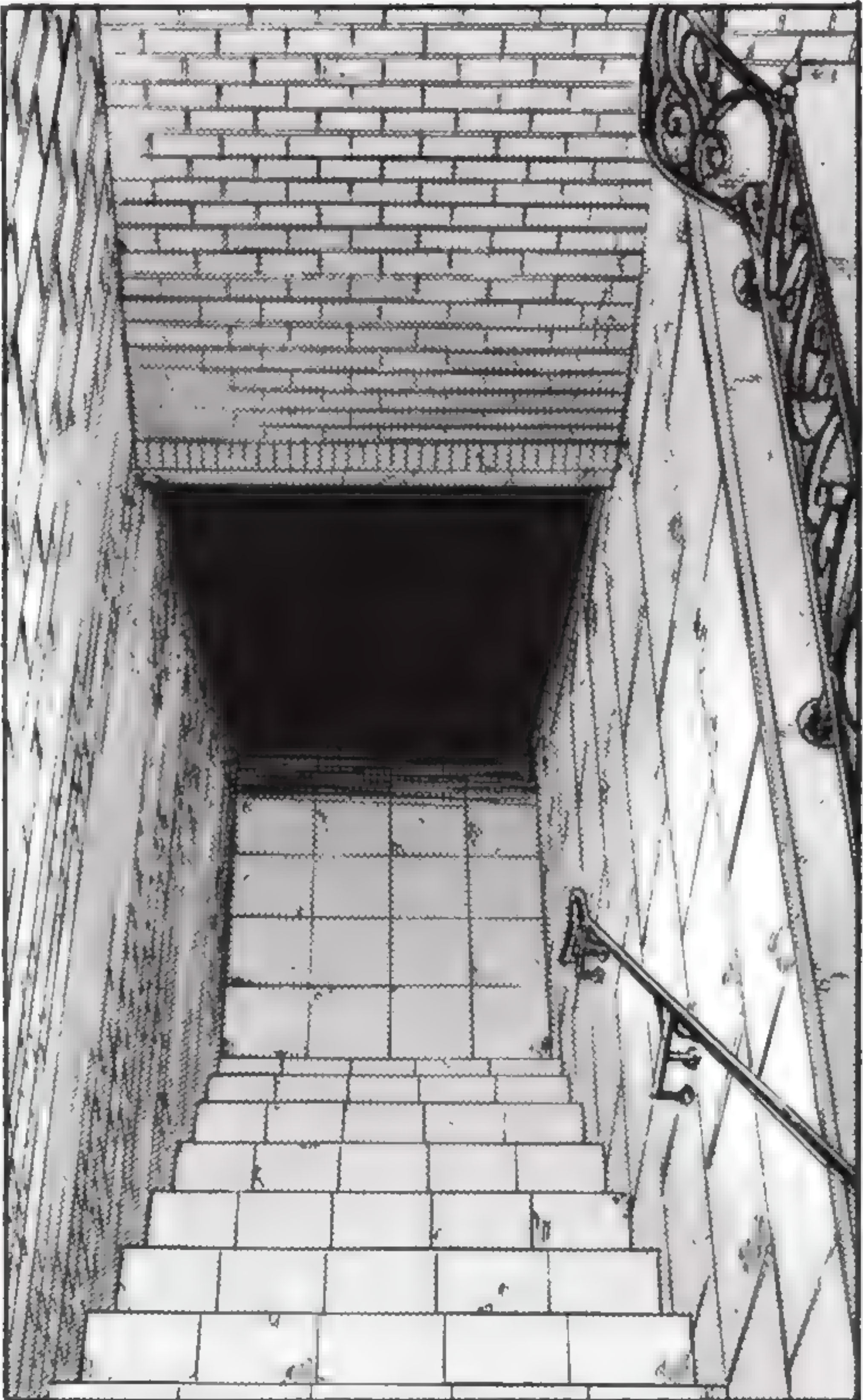
**I WILL
PROTECT
THEM...**

**I
WON'T
LET
YOU!**

**I
SWEAR
I
WILL!!**



Chapter 62: Silent Battle





OR A
VAMPIRE
AMONGST
HUMANS.



OH,
MANY OF
OUR
PEOPLE
DO
DESIRE
JUST
THAT.

HOWEVER,
I WANT
SOMETHING
A LITTLE...
DIFFERENT.



LET
US
GET
DOWN
TO
BUSI-
NESS.

YOU CAME
TO US
WITH THE
REQUEST
FOR THIS
DIALOGUE
...

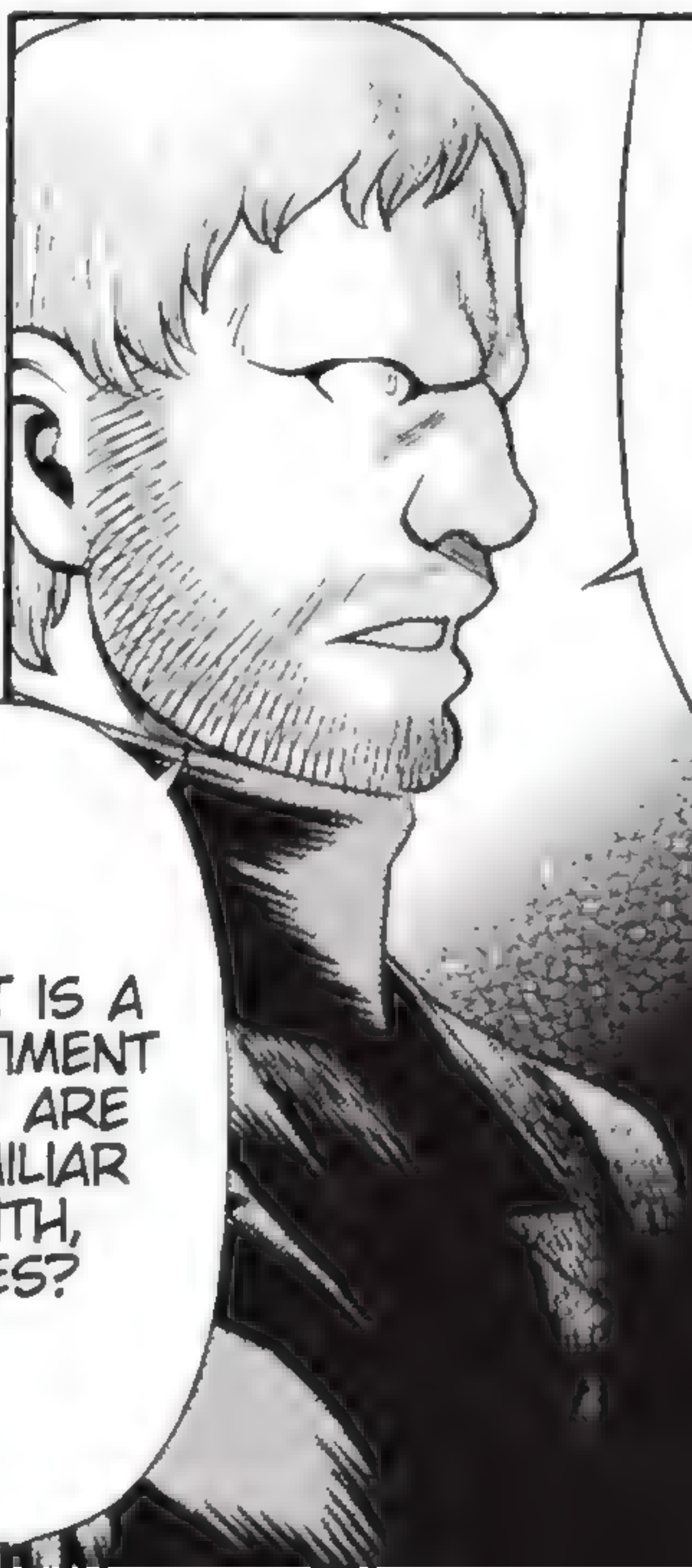
HOWEVER,
WASN'T THIS
SUPPOSED TO
BE YOUR
WAR OF
REVENGE
FOR THE
DEATH OF
YOUR LORD?



YOU ATTEMPT
TO SAVE
YOUR CLAN,
EVEN THOUGH
THE LORD
WHO WAS ITS
HEART NO
LONGER
EXISTS...?



THAT IS A
SENTIMENT
YOU ARE
FAMILIAR
WITH,
YES?



I CANNOT
BEAR THE
THOUGHT OF
ALL TRACES
OF CLAN
IVANOVIC
BEING WIPED
FROM THE
WORLD!



I INTENDED
TO CREATE
A LITTLE
RESISTANCE,
JUST
ENOUGH TO
CONVINCE
YOU TO
CONSIDER
THESE
TALKS.

IT WAS
TO DO
THIS THAT
I BEGGED
AID OF
CLAN LI.

THEN I COULD
NEGOTIATE
TO PRESERVE
THE LIVES
AND SAFETY
OF THOSE
FEW OF MY
COMRADES
WHO YET
LIVE.



THE
REST IS,
AS YOU
SAY IT,
HISTORY.

THE FORCES
LI SENT DID
NOT OBEY
MY ORDERS.
THEY BEGAN
ACTING
INDEPENDENTLY,
EXPANDING
THE LINES OF
COMBAT AND
ENGAGING YOU
WITHOUT MY
CONSENT...

HOWEVER,
THE SITUATION
QUICKLY
VEERED FROM
ITS INTENDED
COURSE AND
FELL INTO
CONFUSION.



ARE YOU
EXPECTING
OUR
SYMPATHY
?

SO, YOU PUT CLAN LI
AND US EACH ON A
SIDE OF A BALANCE,
AND DESPERATELY
HOPED TO KEEP US
EVEN WHILE YOU
SCURRIED AROUND
UNDERNEATH...
BUT THAT FAILED.



OH,
COME.
IT MUST
BE
OBVIOUS.
HE
WANTS
TO PIN
YOU
HERE.

LI IS
DELIBERATELY
EXACERBAT-
ING THIS
CONFLICT.
DO YOU THINK
HE DOES
THIS FOR NO
REASON?

YOU HAVE
NO ROOM
TO LAUGH
AT OUR
FOOLISH-
NESS.

TO WHAT
PURPOSE IS
YET UNCLEAR,
BUT HE
DEFINITELY
INTENDS TO
KEEP BEOWULF
AS FAR AWAY
FROM JAPAN
AS HE CAN.

WHAT
DO
YOU
MEAN
?



OF
COURSE
NOT.

THAT WAS
SIMPLE
PLEASANTRIES.
I WOULD NEVER
DREAM OF
SUMMONING
THE QUEEN'S
OWN BLADES TO
MEET WITH ME
OVER WHAT IS
LITTLE MORE
THAN TEA-TIME
CONVERSATION.



NEGOTI-
ATIONS
WITH
YOU.

WHEN I
UNDERSTOOD
THIS,
I IMMEDIATELY
CUT ALL TIES
WITH LI AND
RETURNED TO
MY ORIGINAL
PLAN.



AND
THIS IS THE
"SECRET"
YOUR
MESSENGER
MENTIONED?
THE ONE
THAT
PERTAINS TO
THE ROYAL
FAMILY?



I THINK
YOU WILL
FIND IT
MOST
INTEREST-
ING.

I HAVE A
PHOTO-
GRAPH...





IT
HAPPENED
WHEN HER
MEAL WAS
BEING
PREPARED,
YOUR
MAJESTY.

WE TOOK
OUR EYES
OFF OF
HER FOR
ONLY A
FEW
SECONDS,
BLT--

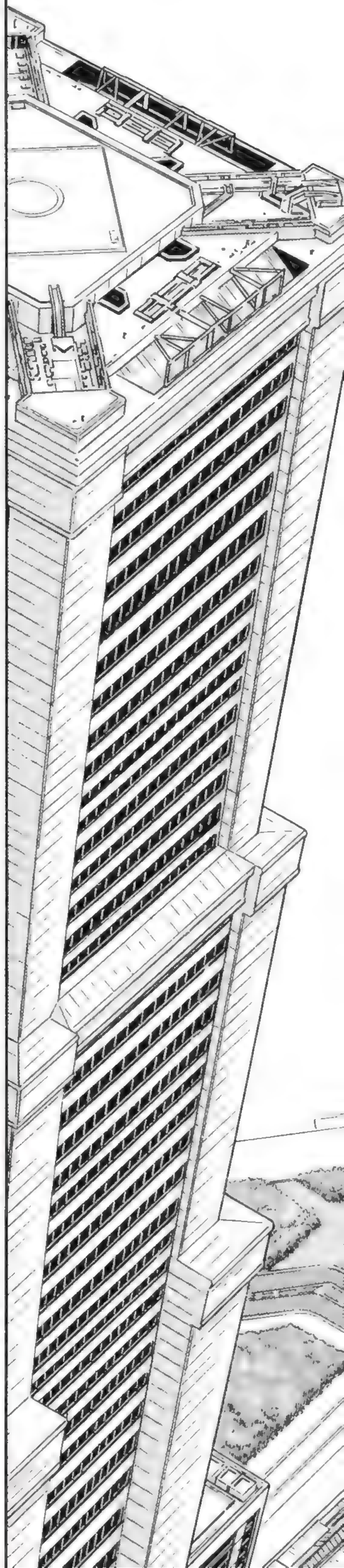
WHAT?!
EXPLAIN!
NOW!!

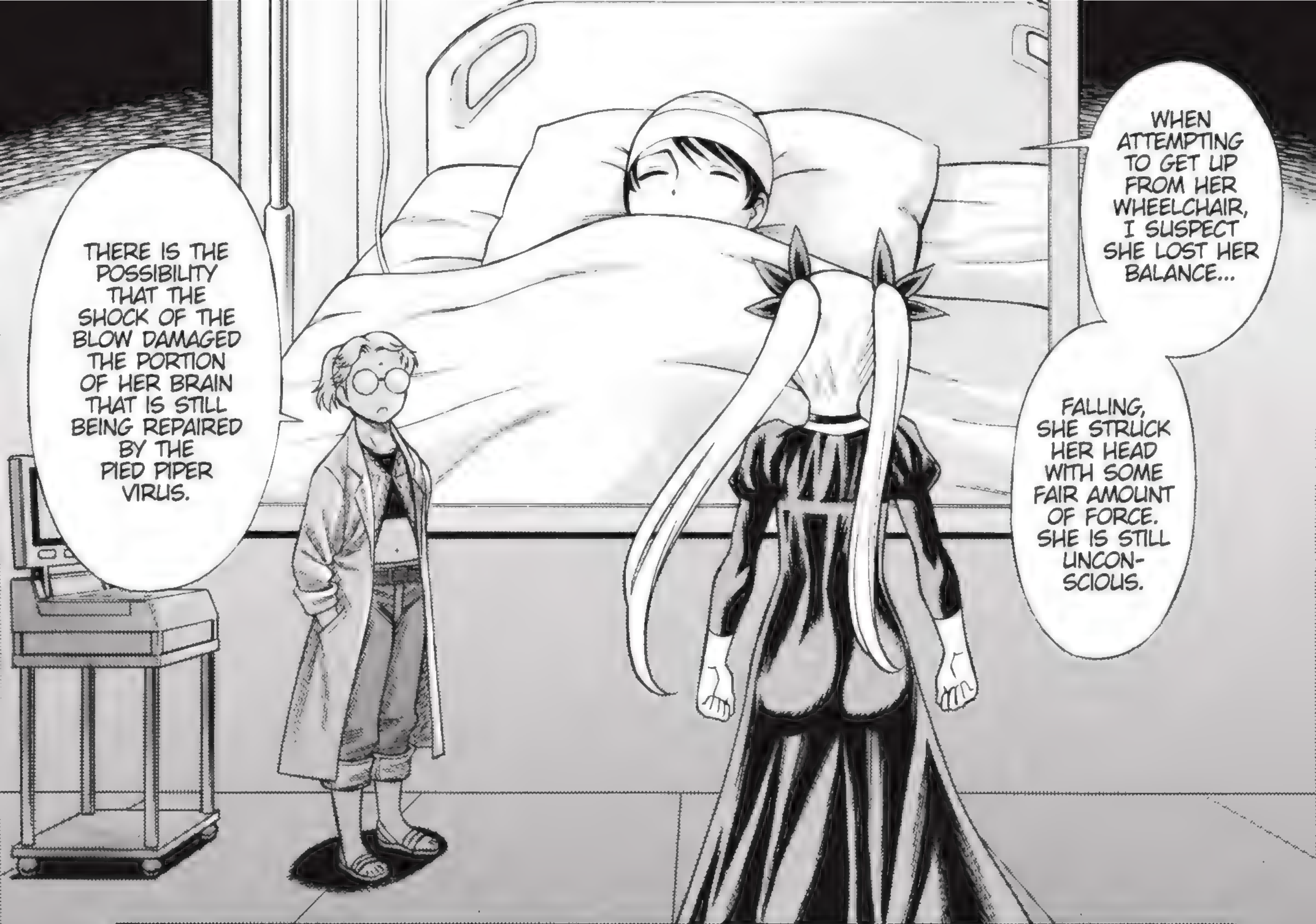


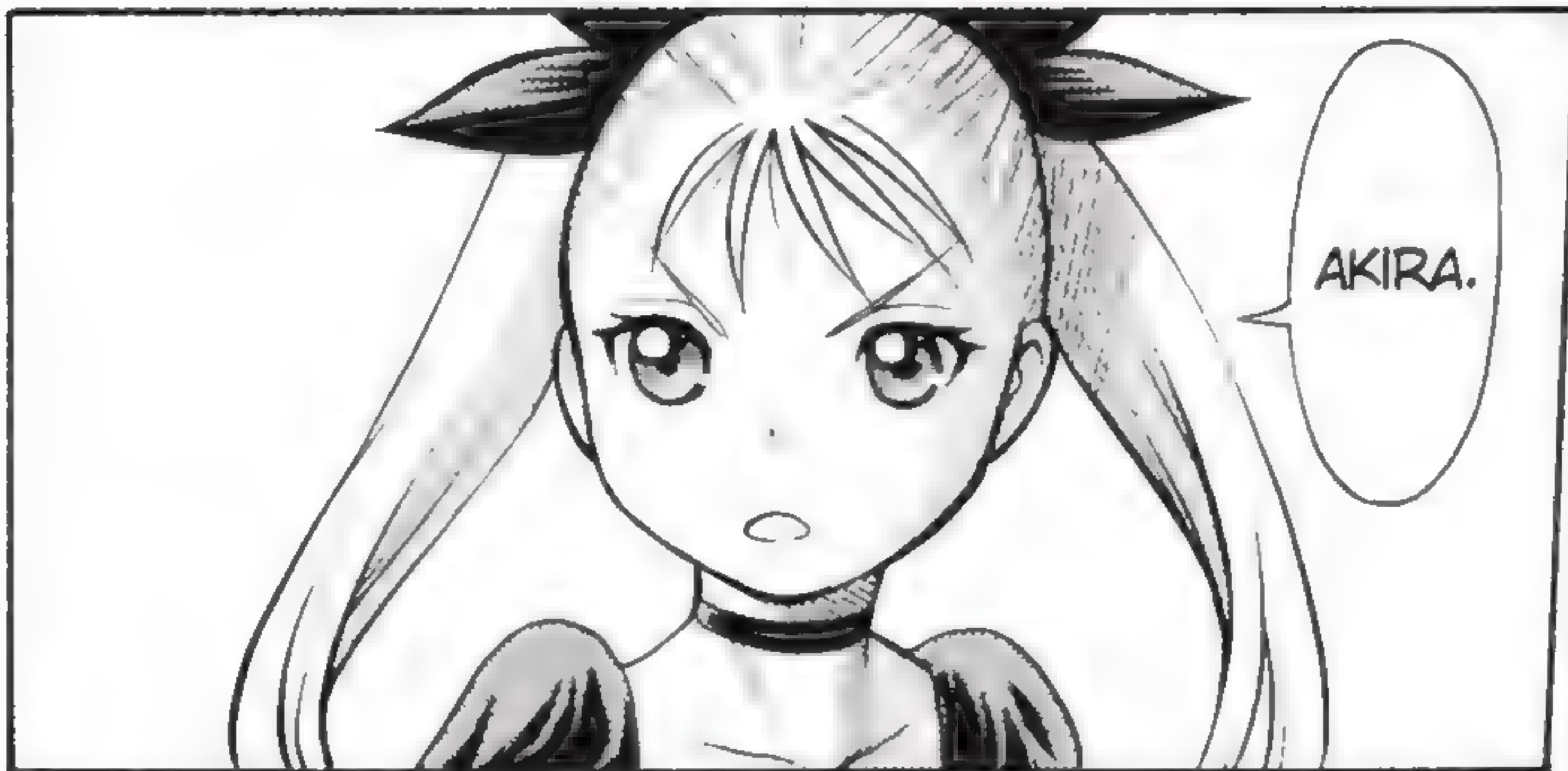
DOCTOR--

AND YOU
SAY THAT'S
WHEN SHE
TRIED TO
ESCAPE?
IN HER
CONDI-
TION?!

THE
FOOL!







AKIRA.



HIME-
SAN!!



WHERE'S
YUKI?

IS
SHE
OKAY
?!



P
L
E
A
S
E
!!

LET
ME
SEE
HER!



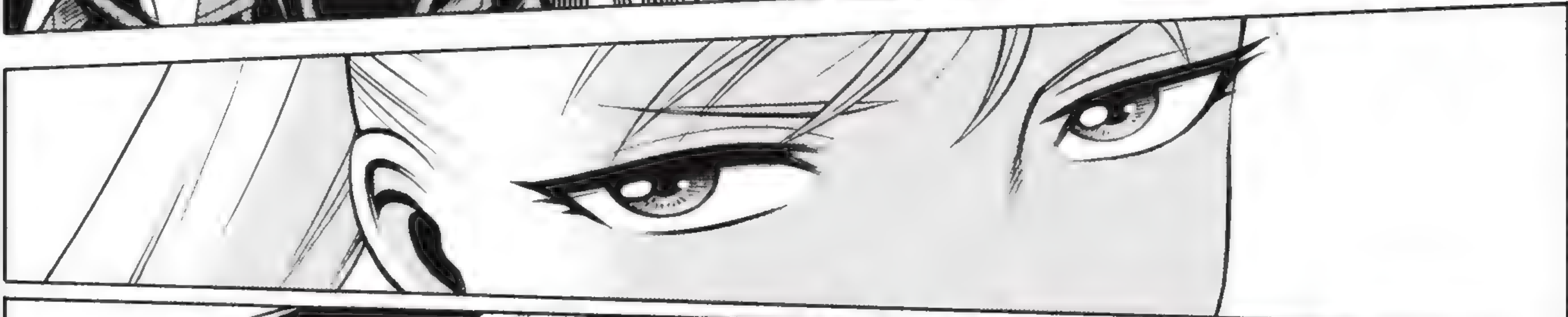
RESTING.
SHE IS
YET
UNCON-
SCIOUS
...

BUT SHE
SHOULD
BE FINE.
LET THE
DOCTOR
TAKE CARE
OF HER.



HOW
DID
YOU
KNOW
?

THE
DOC
TOLD
ME.
WHERE
IS
SHE?!





I
HAVEN'T
MUCH
CHOICE.

YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY,
IS
THIS
WISE?



KEEPING
HIM AT A
MAINTAIN-
ABLE
DISTANCE
IS A
DELICATE,
FUSSY
AFFAIR.

ANY MORE
DELAY ON
MY PART
WILL ONLY
PLANT
UNNECESSARY
SEEDS OF
DOUBT IN
HIS MIND.



ALL
RIGHT...
I WILL
ALLOW
YOU
TO SEE
HER.

I WILL
HAVE YOU
INFORMED
WHEN SHE
WAKES.
COME
BACK
THEN.



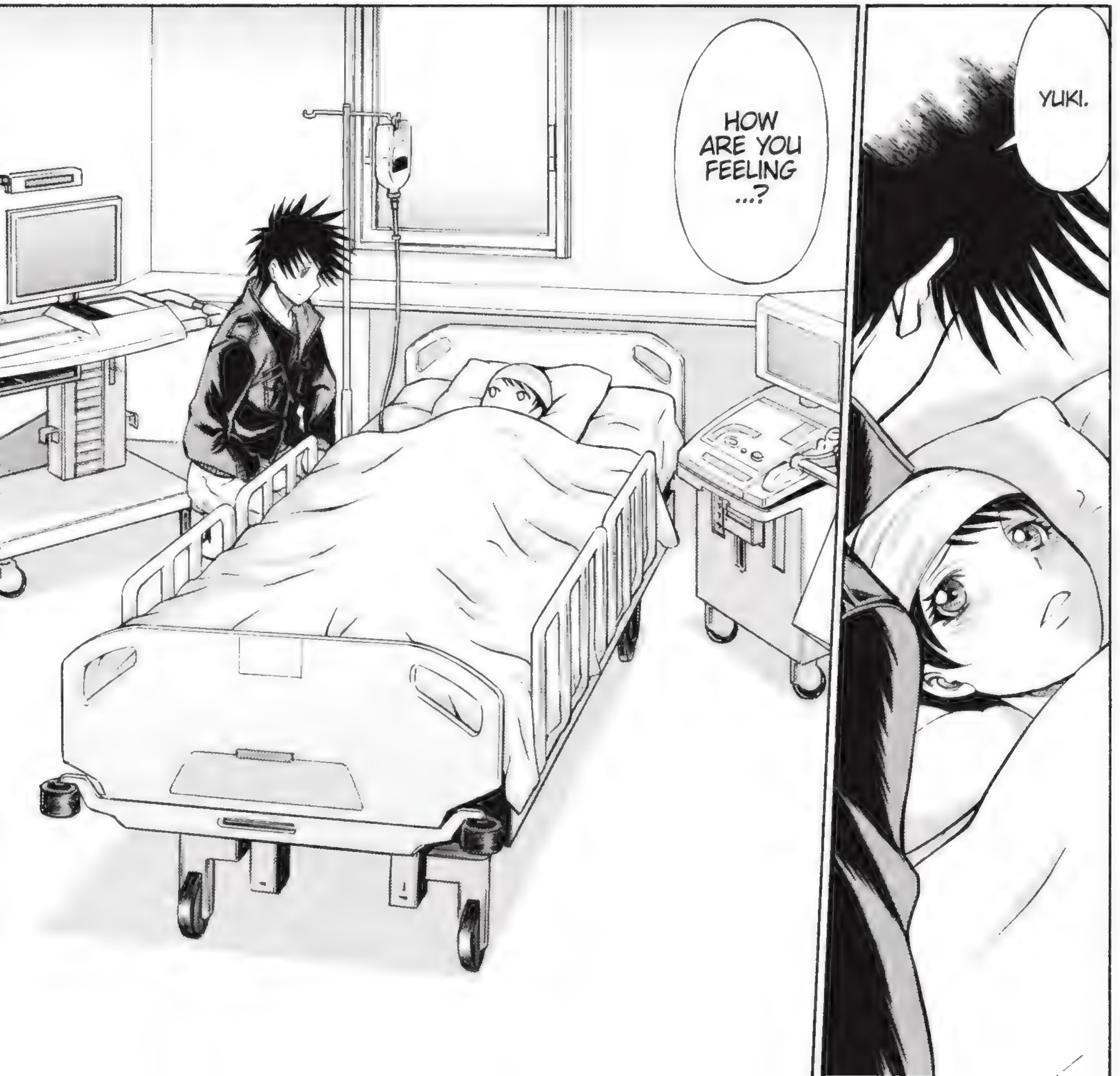
I VERY
MUCH
DOUBT
YUKI WILL
BE ABLE
TO TELL
AKIRA
ANYTHING
AT ALL.

STILL
...

I WANT
EVERY WORD,
EVERY
GESTURE,
EVERY LITTLE
TWITCH
EITHER OF
THEM MAKE TO
BE SEEN AND
RECORDED,
UNDERSTAND?



BUT
PRECAUTIONS
WILL BE
TAKEN. SET
MONITORS IN
HER ROOM.
I WANT
VISIBILITY
FROM ALL
ANGLES.
ALL
ANGLES.

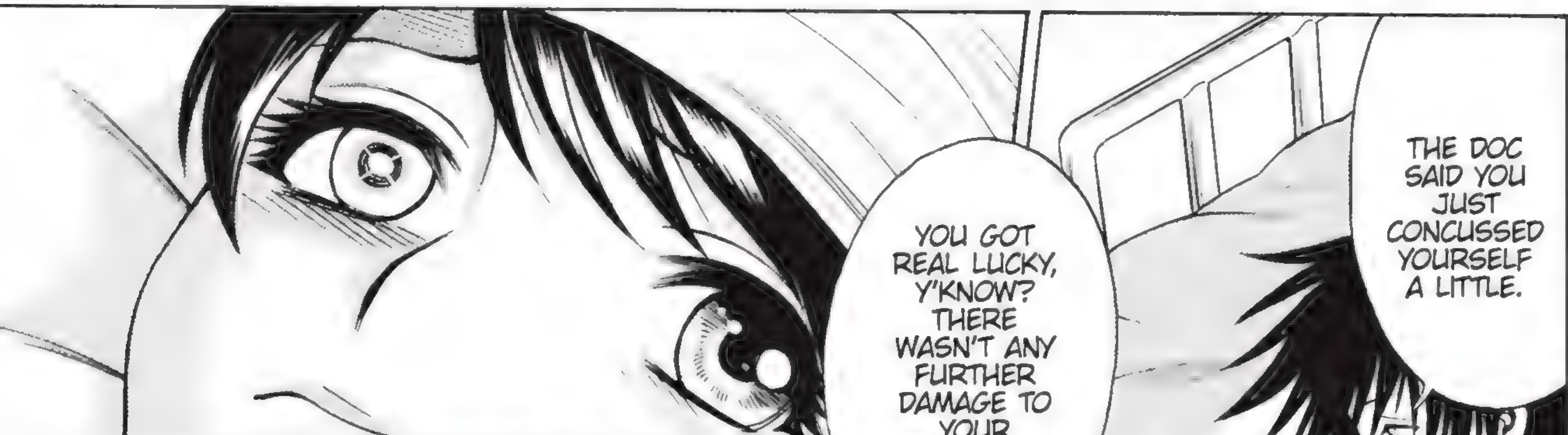






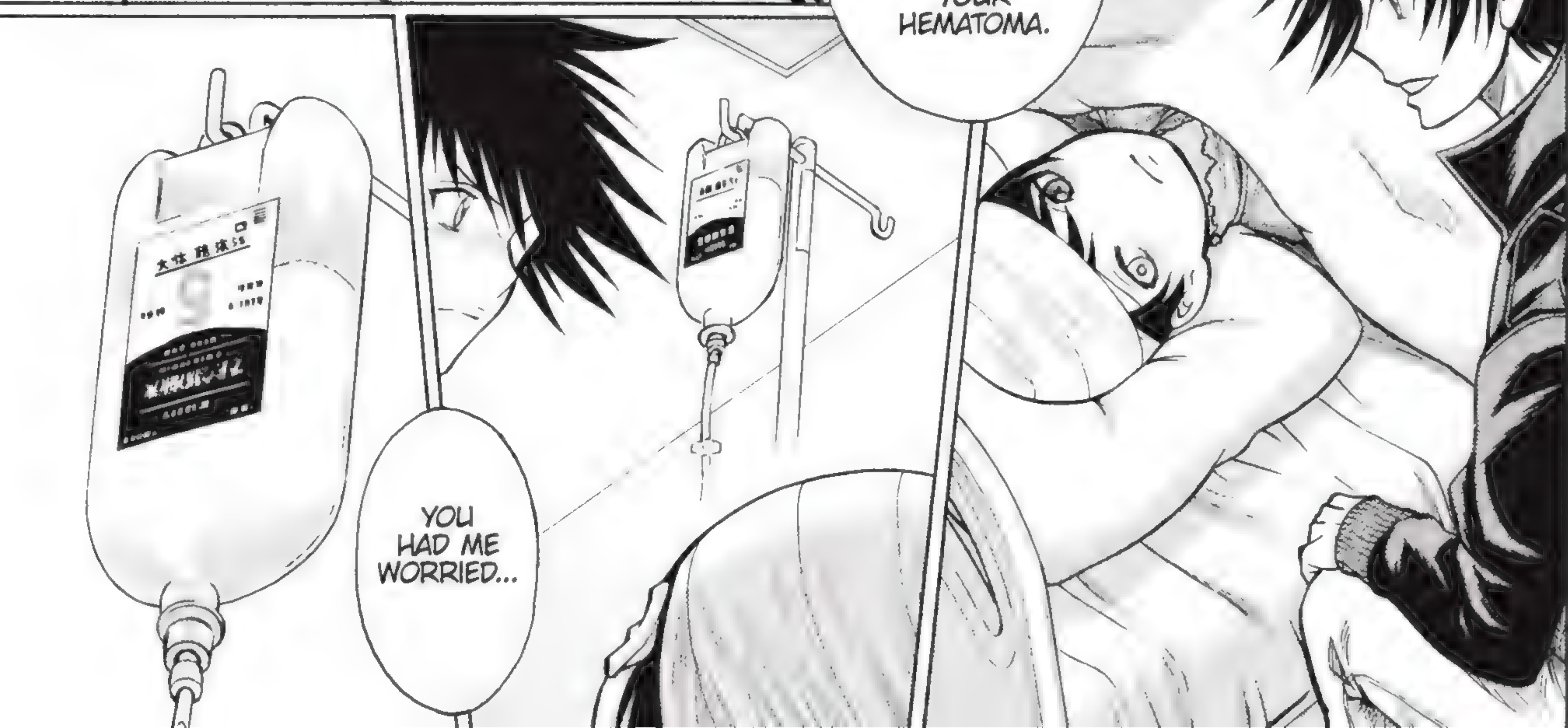
OH
YEAH!

UM...

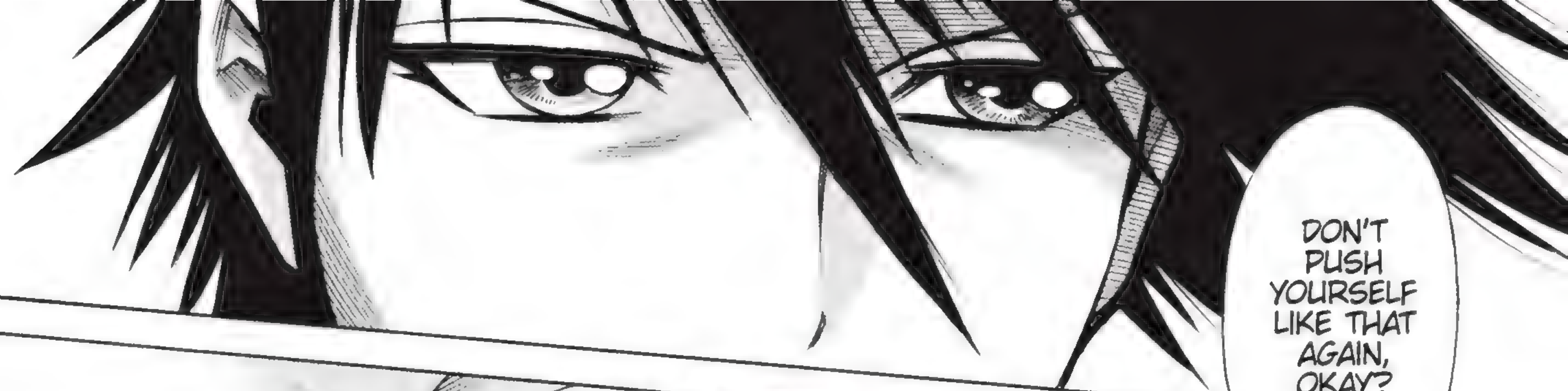


YOU GOT
REAL LUCKY,
Y'KNOW?
THERE
WASN'T ANY
FURTHER
DAMAGE TO
YOUR
HEMATOMA.

THE DOC
SAID YOU
JUST
CONCUSSED
YOURSELF
A LITTLE.



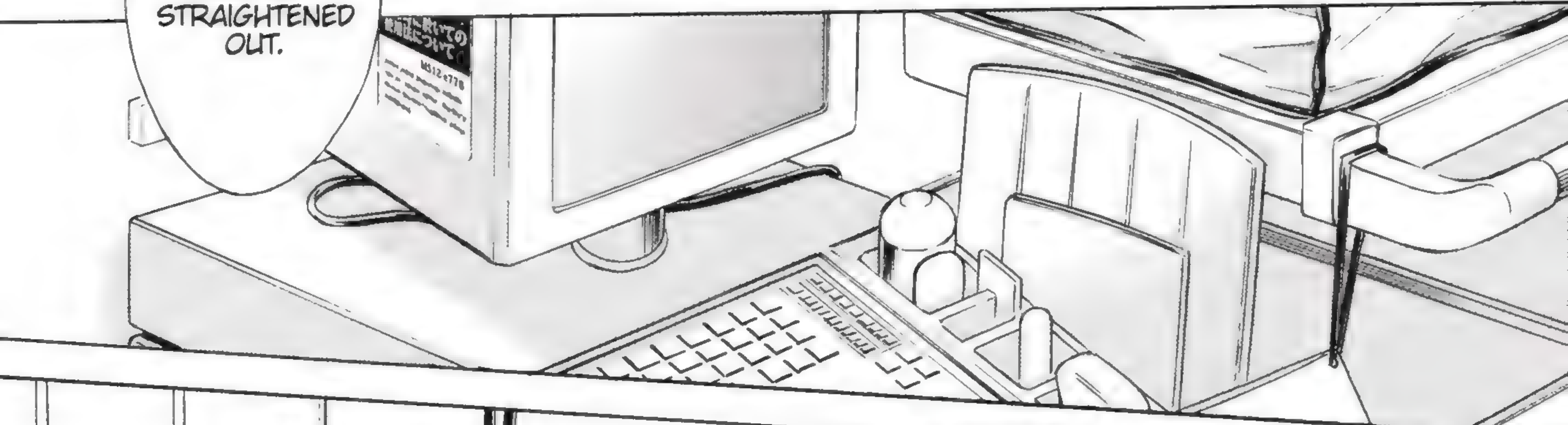
YOU
HAD ME
WORRIED...



DON'T
PUSH
YOURSELF
LIKE THAT
AGAIN,
OKAY?



THERE'S
NO NEED
TO RUSH.
EVERYTHING
WILL GET
STRAIGHTENED
OUT.



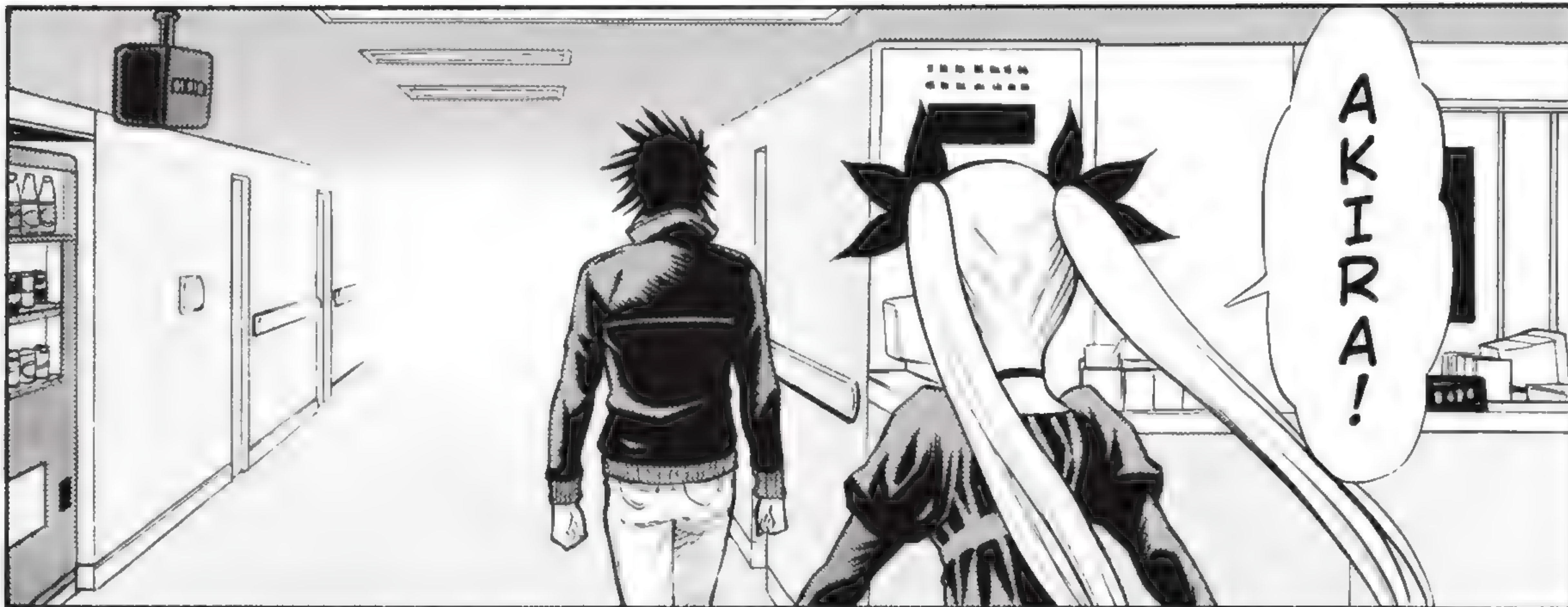
YOU'LL
BE FREE
AGAIN
BEFORE
YOU
KNOW
IT.

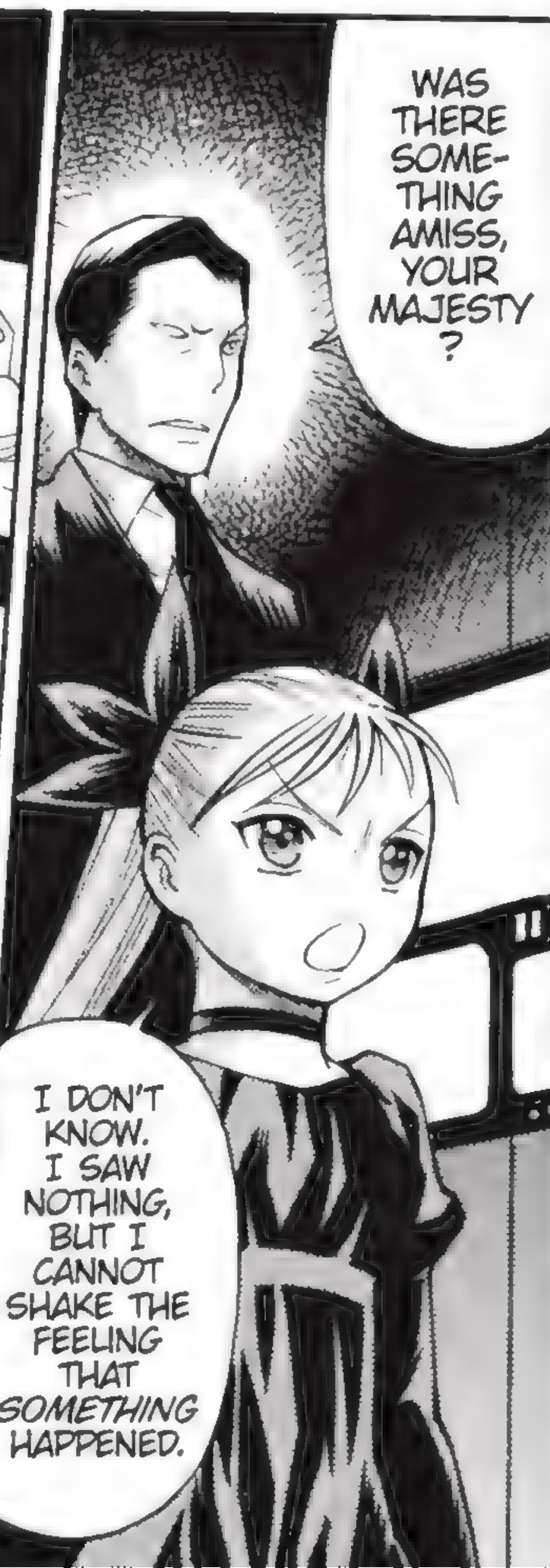
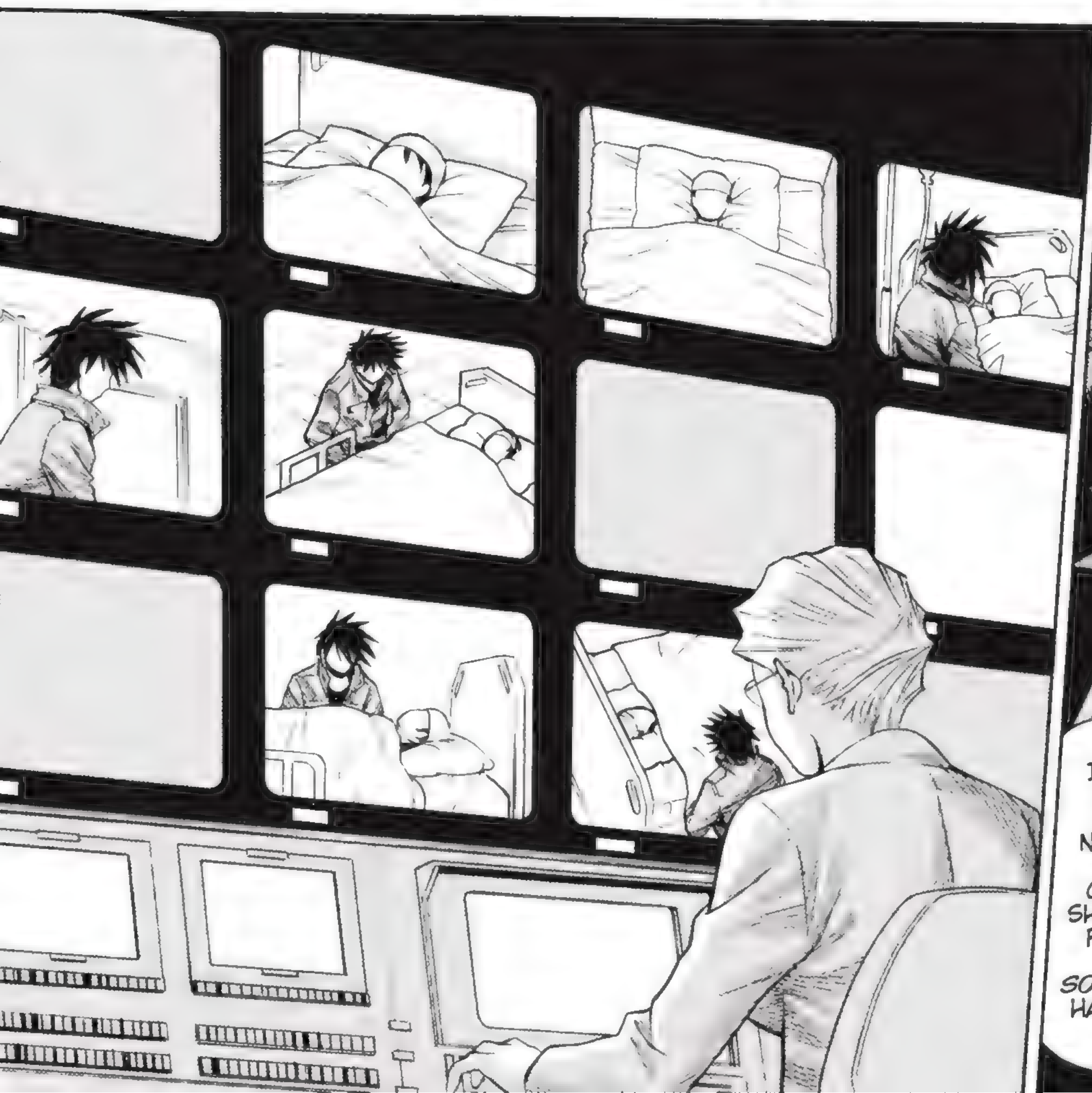
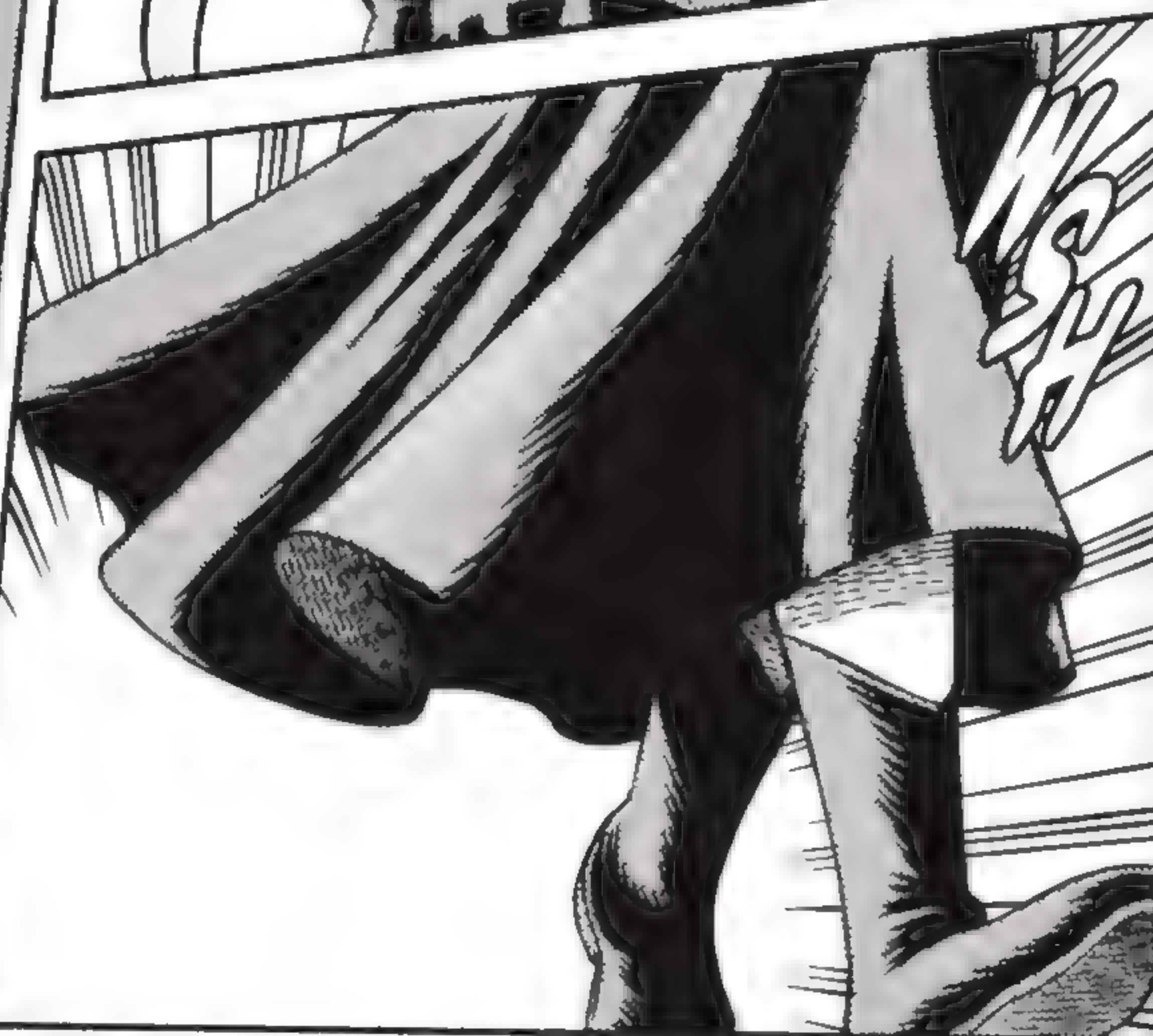


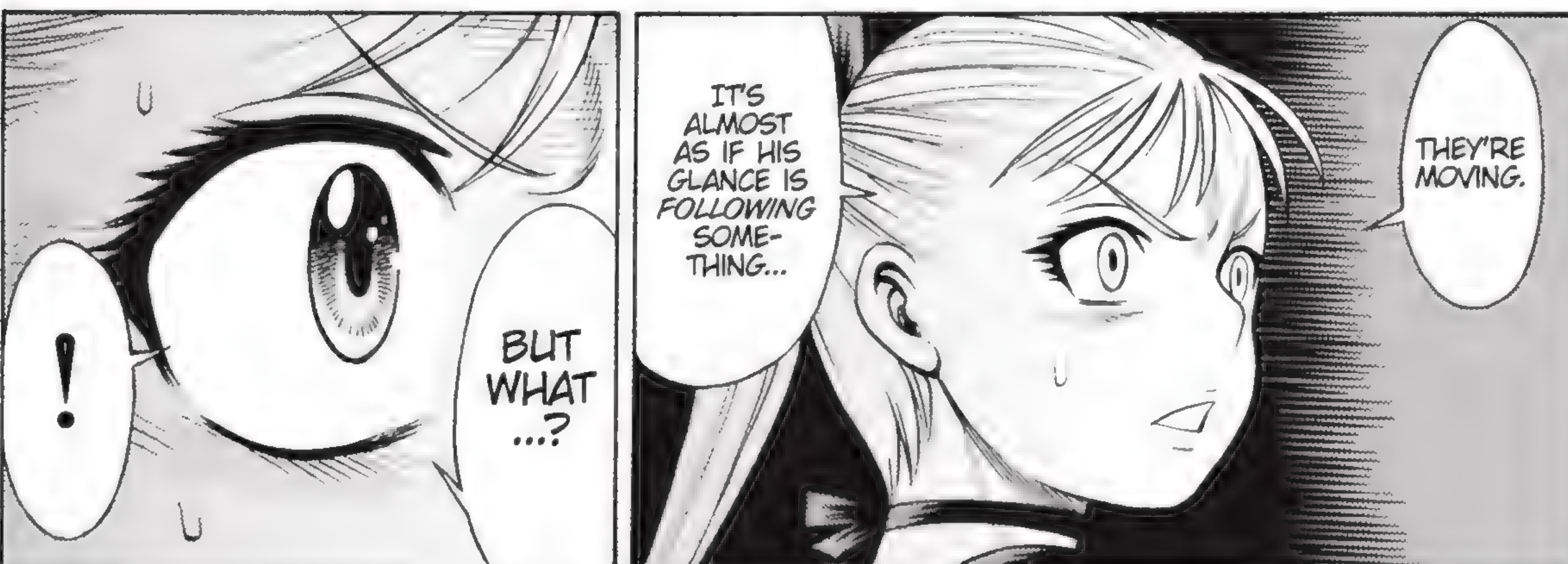
IT
WON'T
BE
LONG
NOW.

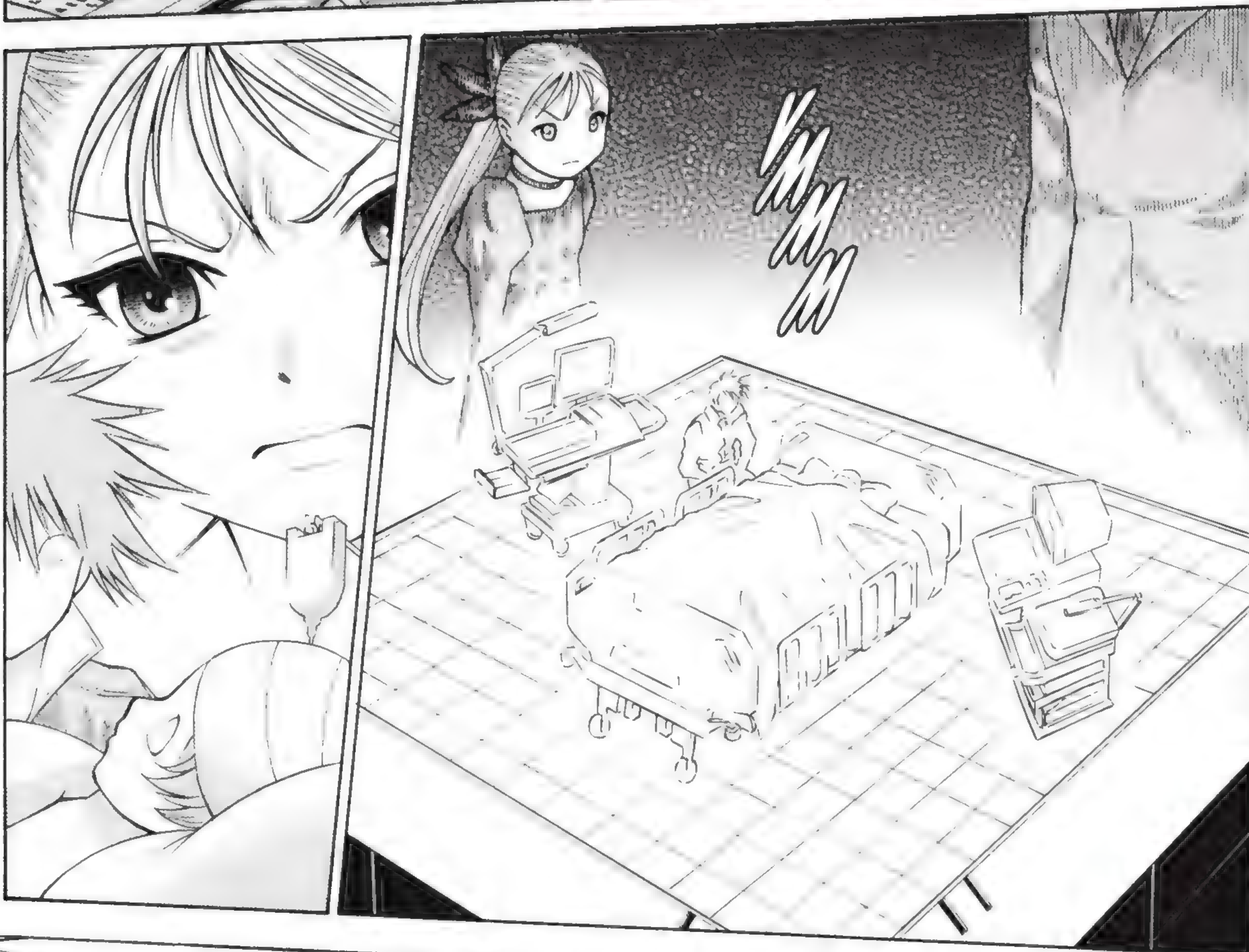
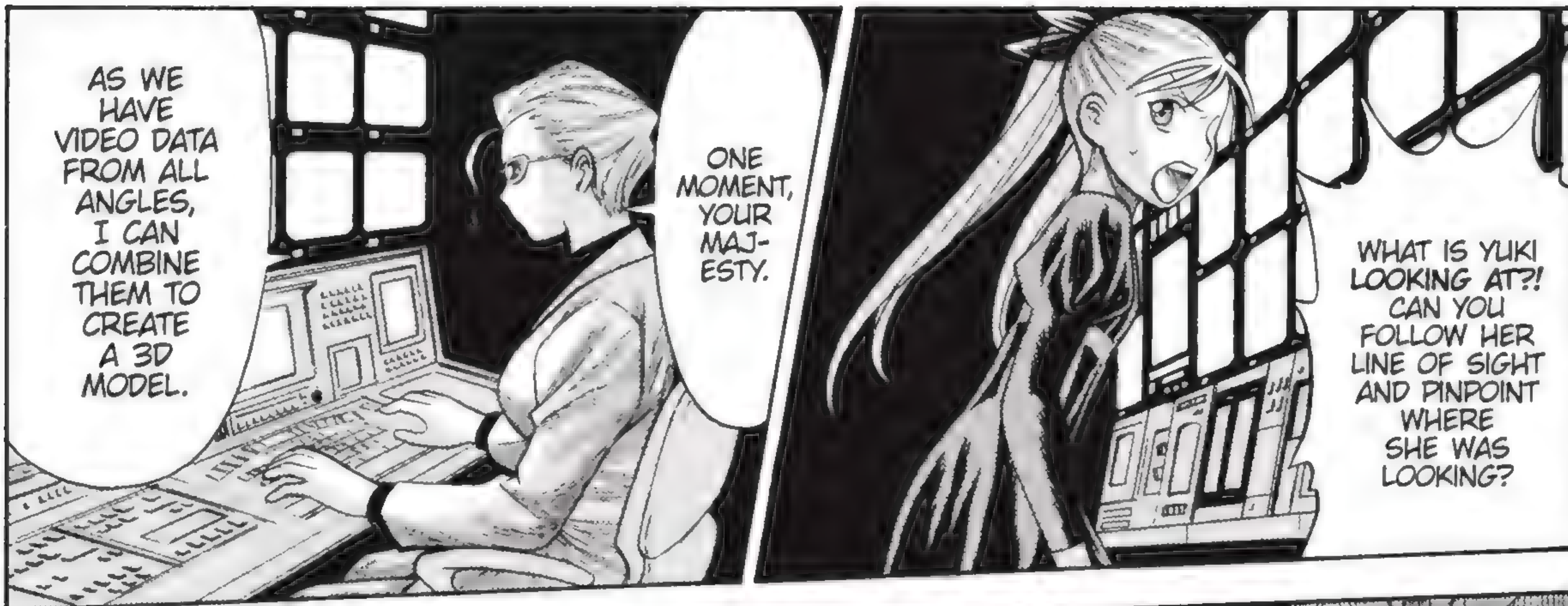




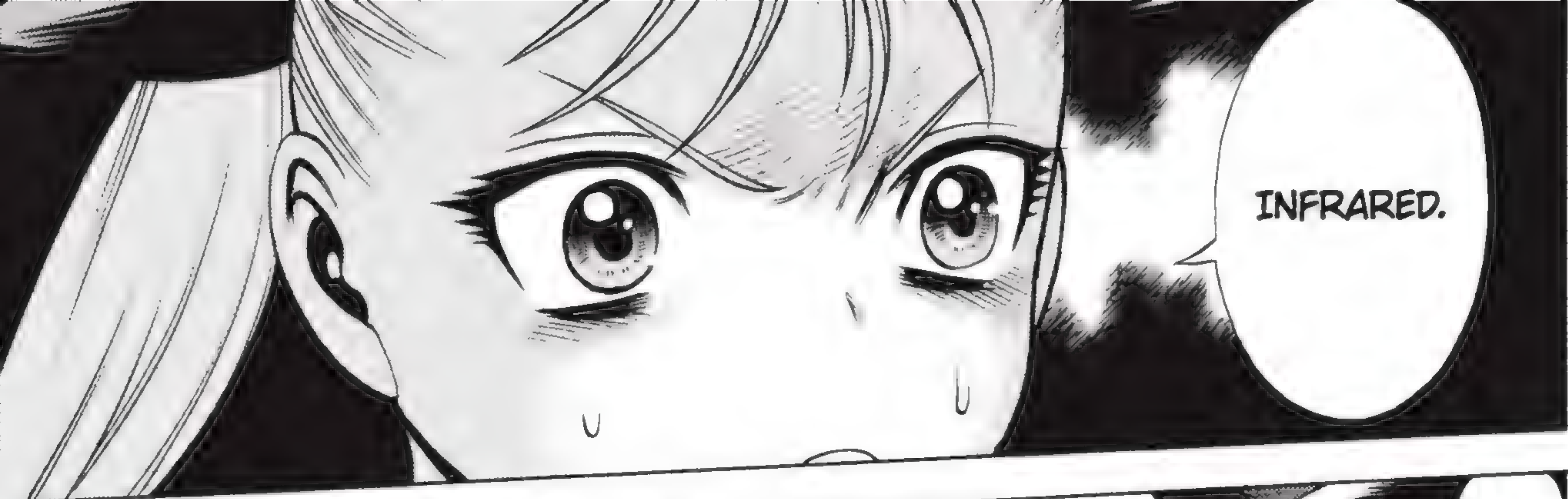












INFRARED.



AKIRA
KNOWS
THIS...

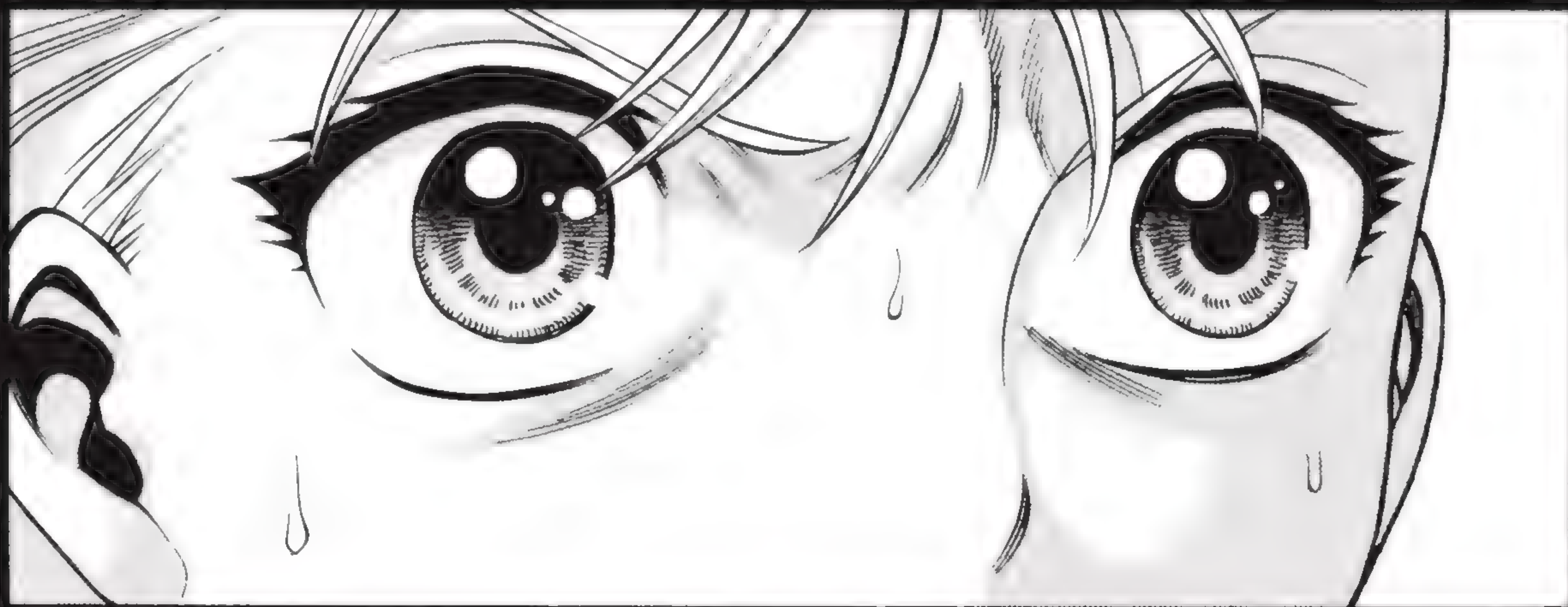
AND
WEREWOLVES
ARE
CAPABLE
OF SEEING
INTO THE
INFRARED
SPECTRUM!!

THE PIED PIPER
NANOMACHINES
INJECTED INTO
YUKI'S BRAIN WERE
PROGRAMMED TO
EMIT A BEAM OF
INFRARED LIGHT
FROM HER RIGHT
EYE AT HER WILL,
SO SHE COULD
MANIPULATE A
COMPUTER TO
COMMUNICATE!

YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY?



SHOW ME
EVERY
LETTER
AND WORD
YUKI'S EYES
PINPOINTED,
IN
ORDER!

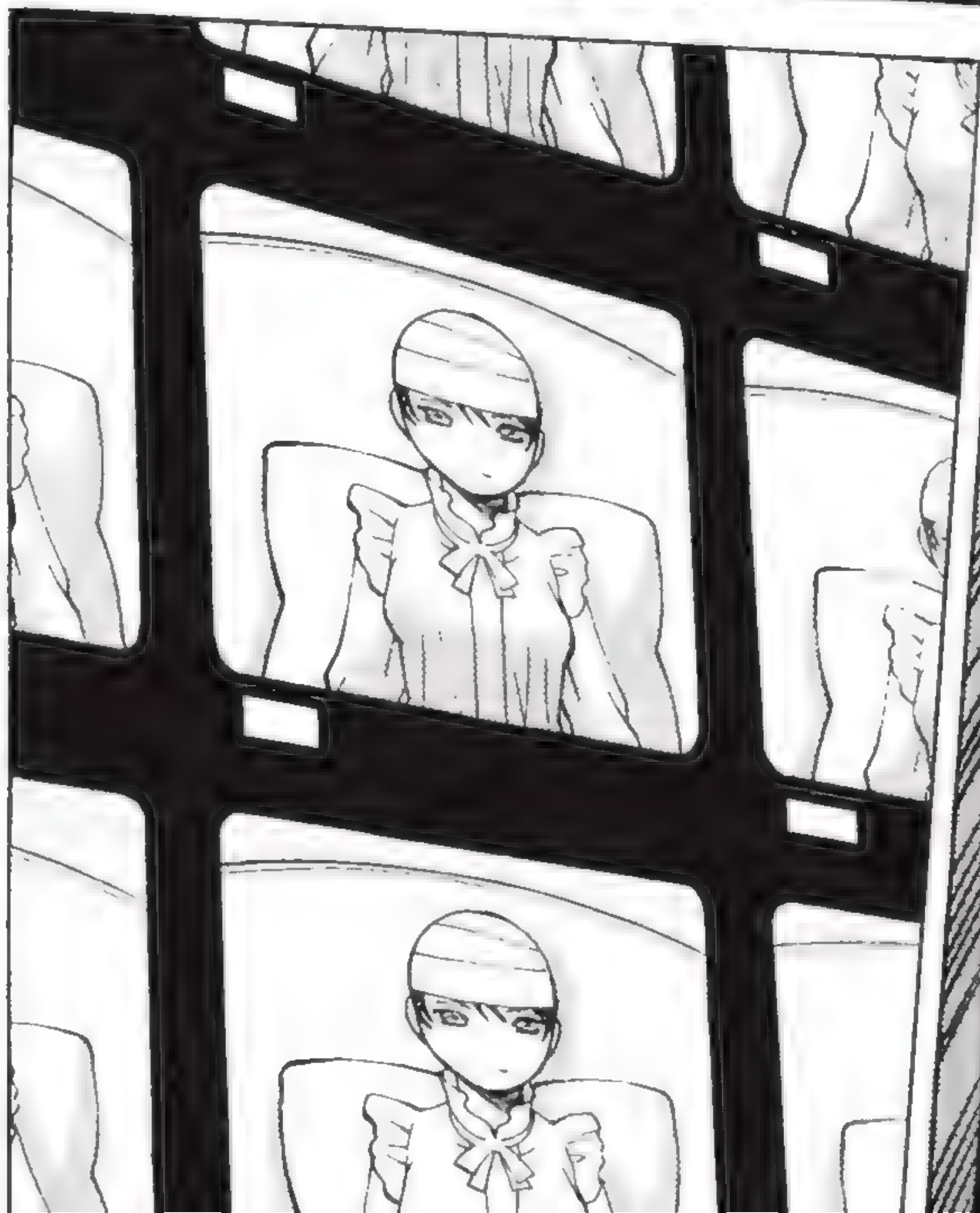


HIME IS
A FAKE.
BEWARE
BORGIANI.



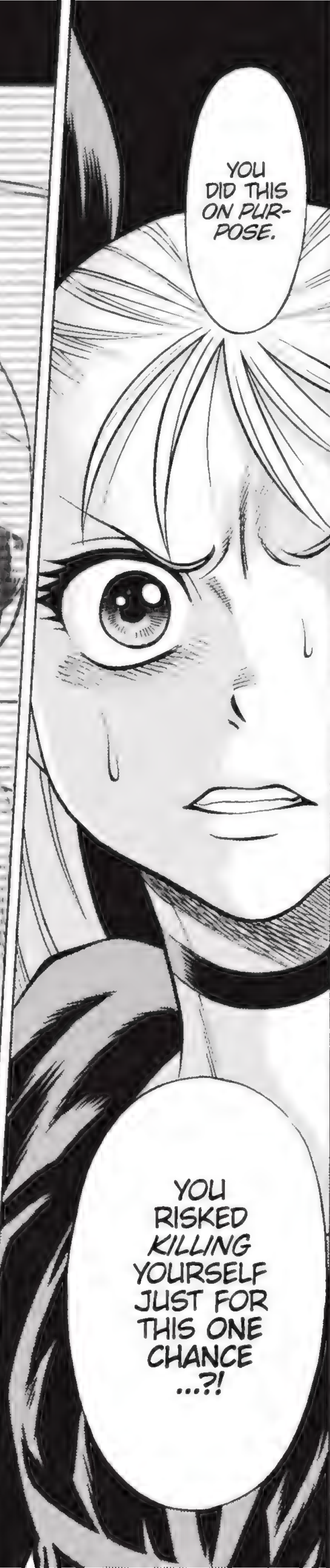
**N
O
W
!!**

**FIND
KABU-
RAGI
AKIRA
!!**





YOU
DID THIS
ON PUR-
POSE.



YOU
RISKED
KILLING
YOURSELF
JUST FOR
THIS ONE
CHANCE
...?!



WAIT.



DON'T
TELL
ME...



KATSURAGI
AKIRA IS
GONE!
WE...
WE CAN'T
FIND
HIM!!

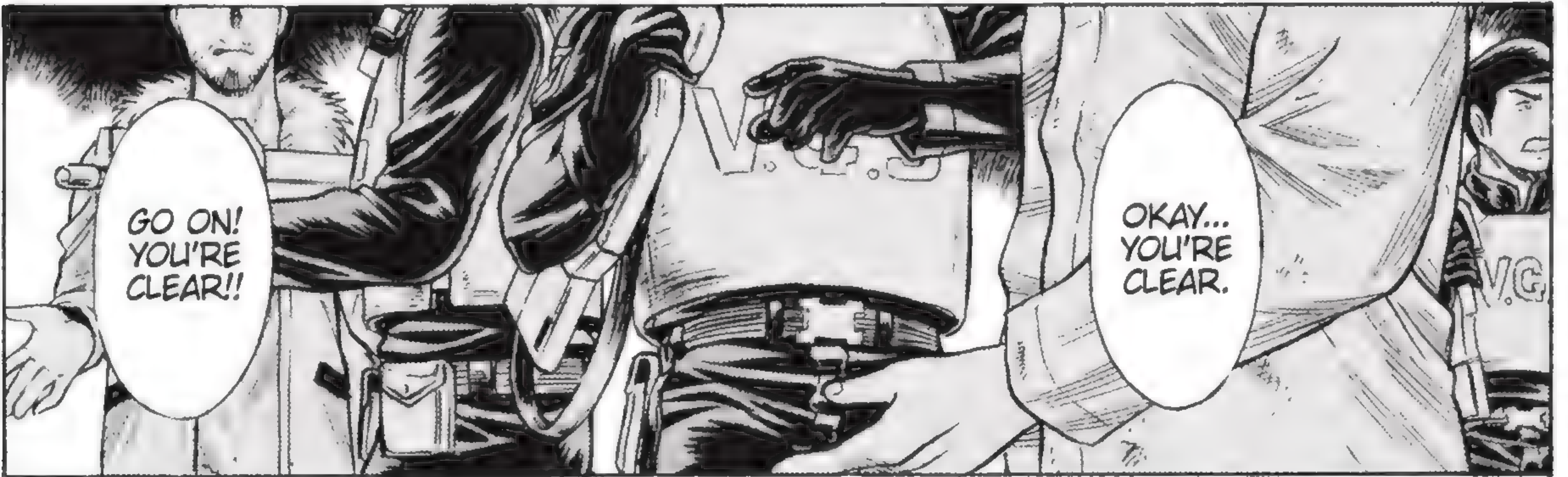
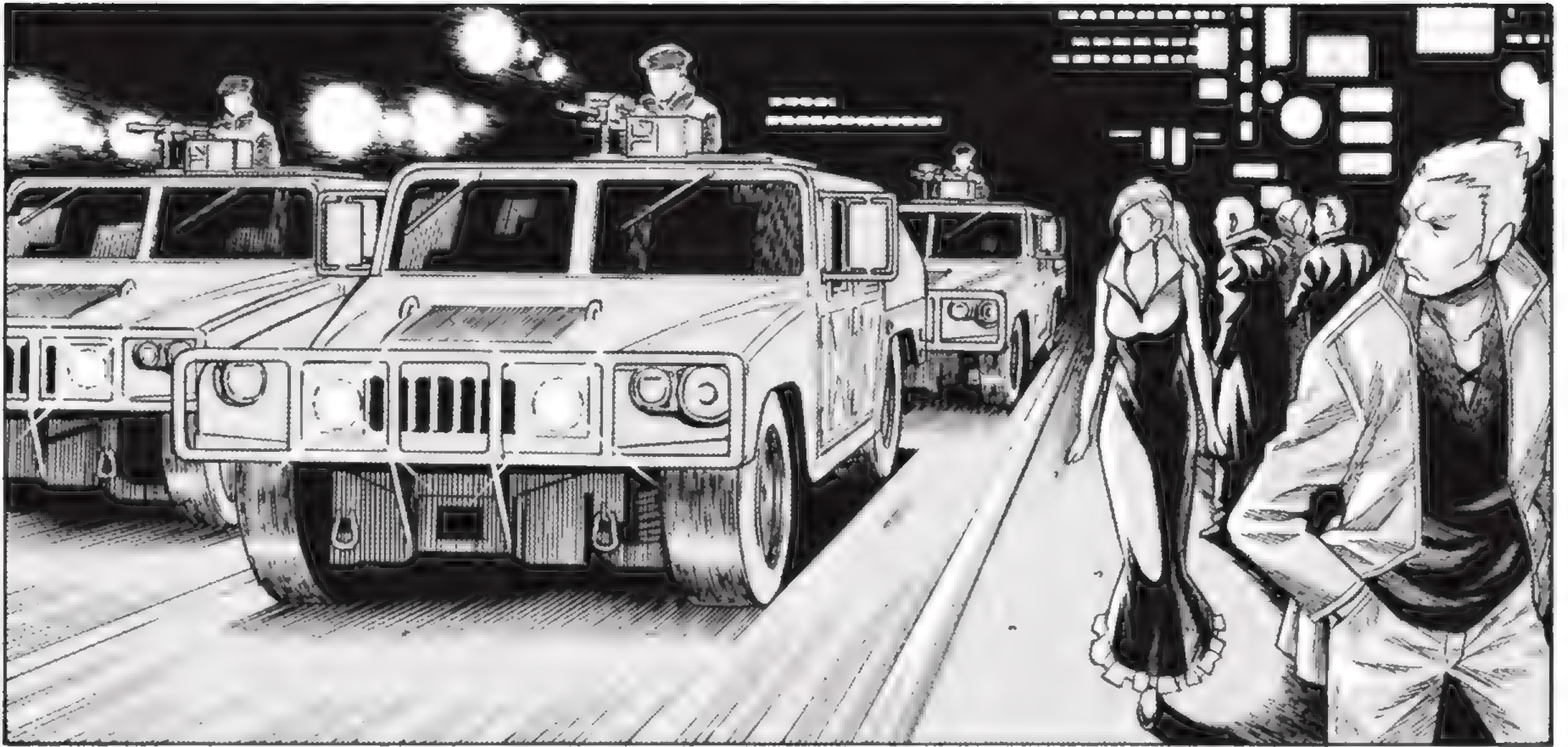
YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY!

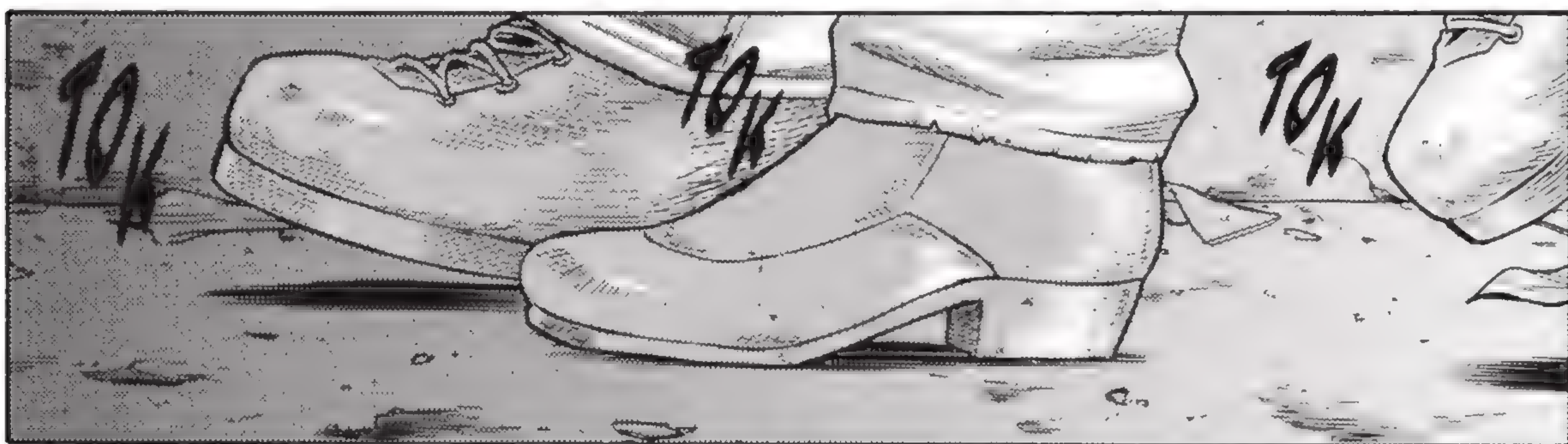
HE'S
NOT
ANY-
WHERE
!!

**I HEREBY
ORDER
EVERY
VAMPIRE
ON THIS
ISLAND TO
FIND
HIM!!**

**BROAD-
CAST A
MESSAGE
TO THE
ENTIRE
BLIND!**

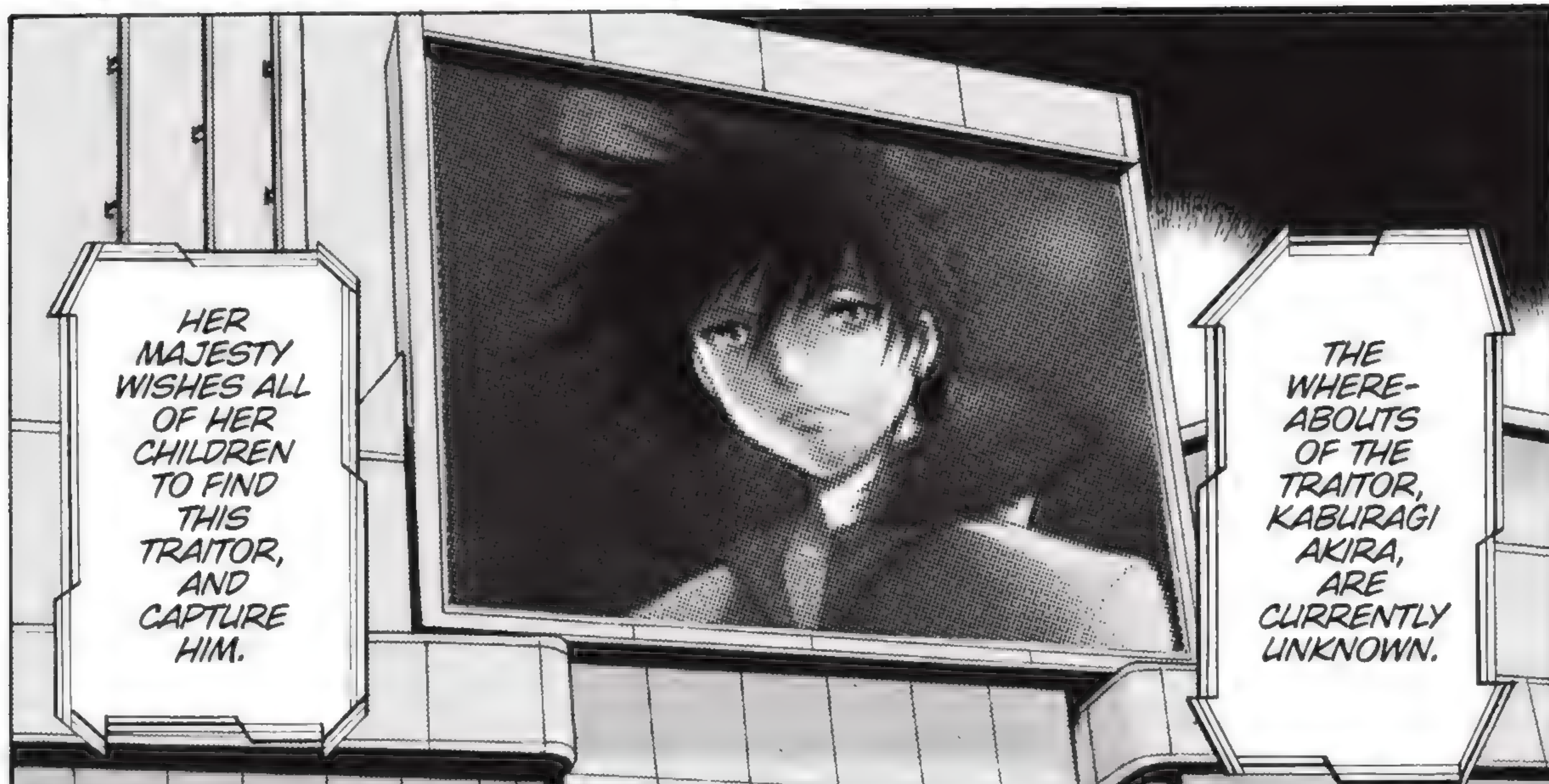




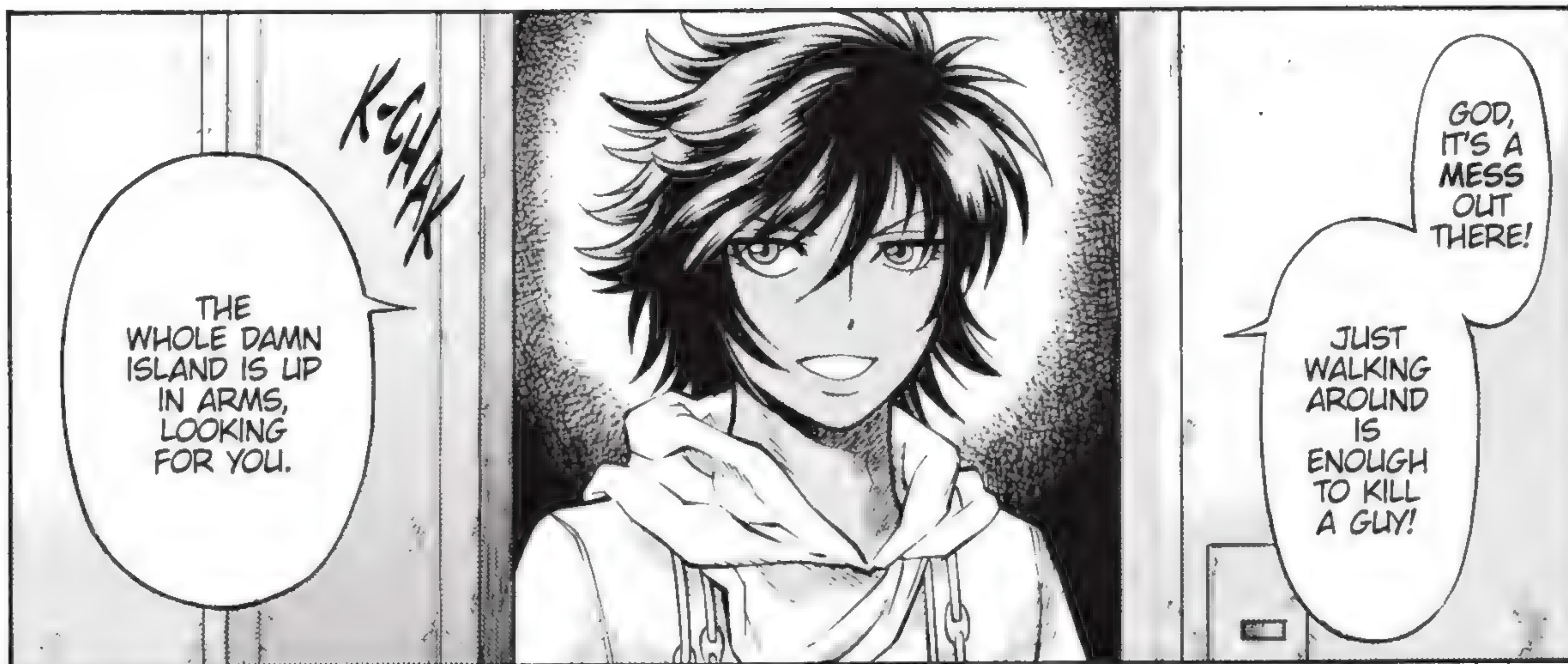




Chapter 63: Runaway Squad







THE
WHOLE DAMN
ISLAND IS UP
IN ARMS,
LOOKING
FOR YOU.

K-GHAK

GOD,
IT'S A
MESS
OUT
THERE!

JUST
WALKING
AROUND
IS
ENOUGH
TO KILL
A GUY!



TELL ME ABOUT IT.
YOU TOLD ME
EVERYTHING THAT
HAPPENED,
AND I'M STILL
FEELING A LITTLE...
I DUNNO...
RESISTANT
TO IT ALL.

HEY!



ORDERS
FROM
SOMEONE
AS HIGH
UP AS
PRINCESS
MINA
WOULD GET
ANYONE
TO JUMP.

WELL,
YEAH.
THEY
DON'T
KNOW
YET THAT
SHE'S A
FAKE.



SERIOUSLY,
SOMETIMES
IT *SUCKS*
TO BE A
VAMPIRE...



CATCH
HER
ALONE?
THEN
WHAT'RE
YOU
GOING
TO DO?



NUTS
OR
NOT,
I'M
GOING
!

THERE
ARE LOTS
OF GOOD
PLACES
IN THERE
FOR ME TO
HIDE AND
WAIT TO
CATCH HER
ALONE.



ANYWAY,
ARE YOU
SERIOUSLY
THINKING YOU
CAN SNEAK
BACK INTO
THE ADMINIS-
TRATION
BUILDING?

IF YOU
ARE,
THEN
YOU'RE
NUTS.



AND
ONCE
SHE'S
DONE
TALKING
...

I'LL
KILL
HER
!!



FIND
OUT
WHERE
SHE'S
HIDDEN
THE
REAL
HIME-
SAN!

SHE'S
THE ONE
WHO
DID ALL
THIS!
SHE
MUST
KNOW!



SEEING
THAT,
I CAN'T
RUN
ANY-
MORE.

I CAN'T LET
MYSELF BE
A COWARD
WHEN
SOMEONE
FAR WORSE
OFF THAN
ME HAS THE
COURAGE
TO STAND
AND FIGHT!!



SHE
CAN'T
EVEN
STAND...
HELL,
SHE
CAN'T
EVEN
TALK...

BUT SHE
WAS STILL
FIGHTING!
I CAN'T
EVEN BEGIN
TO IMAGINE
HOW
TERRIFYING
THIS ALL
HAD TO
BE FOR
HER...



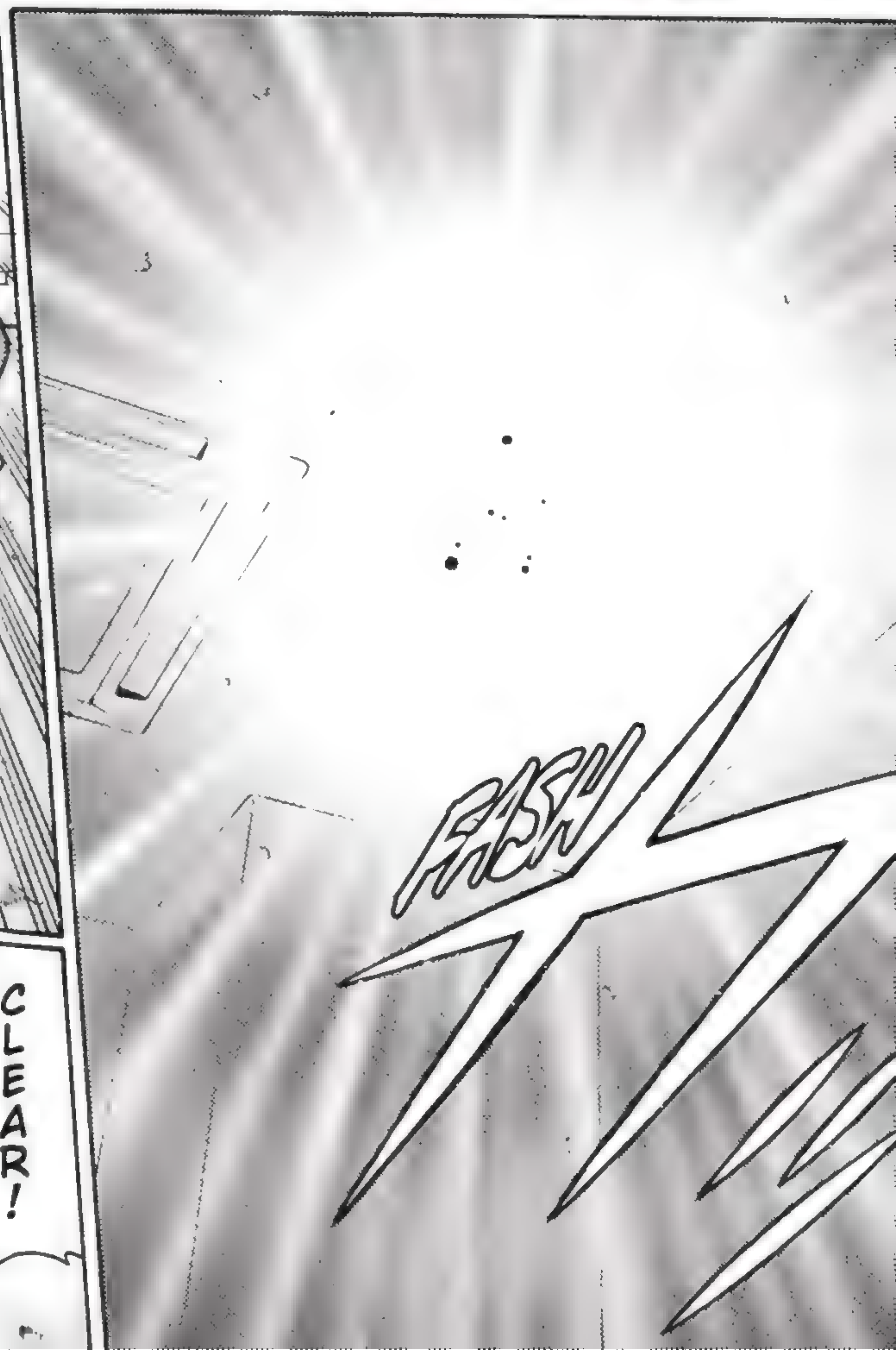
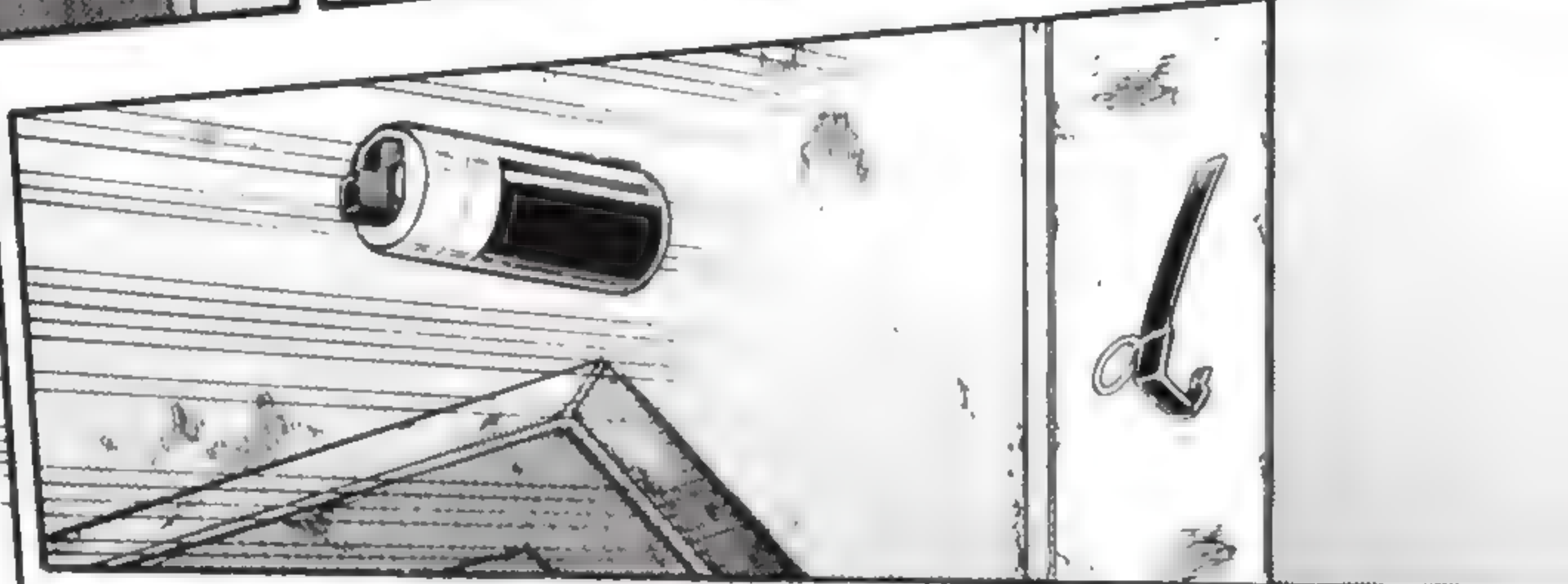
BUT
WHILE
I WAS
RUNNING,
YUKI
WAS
FIGHTING!

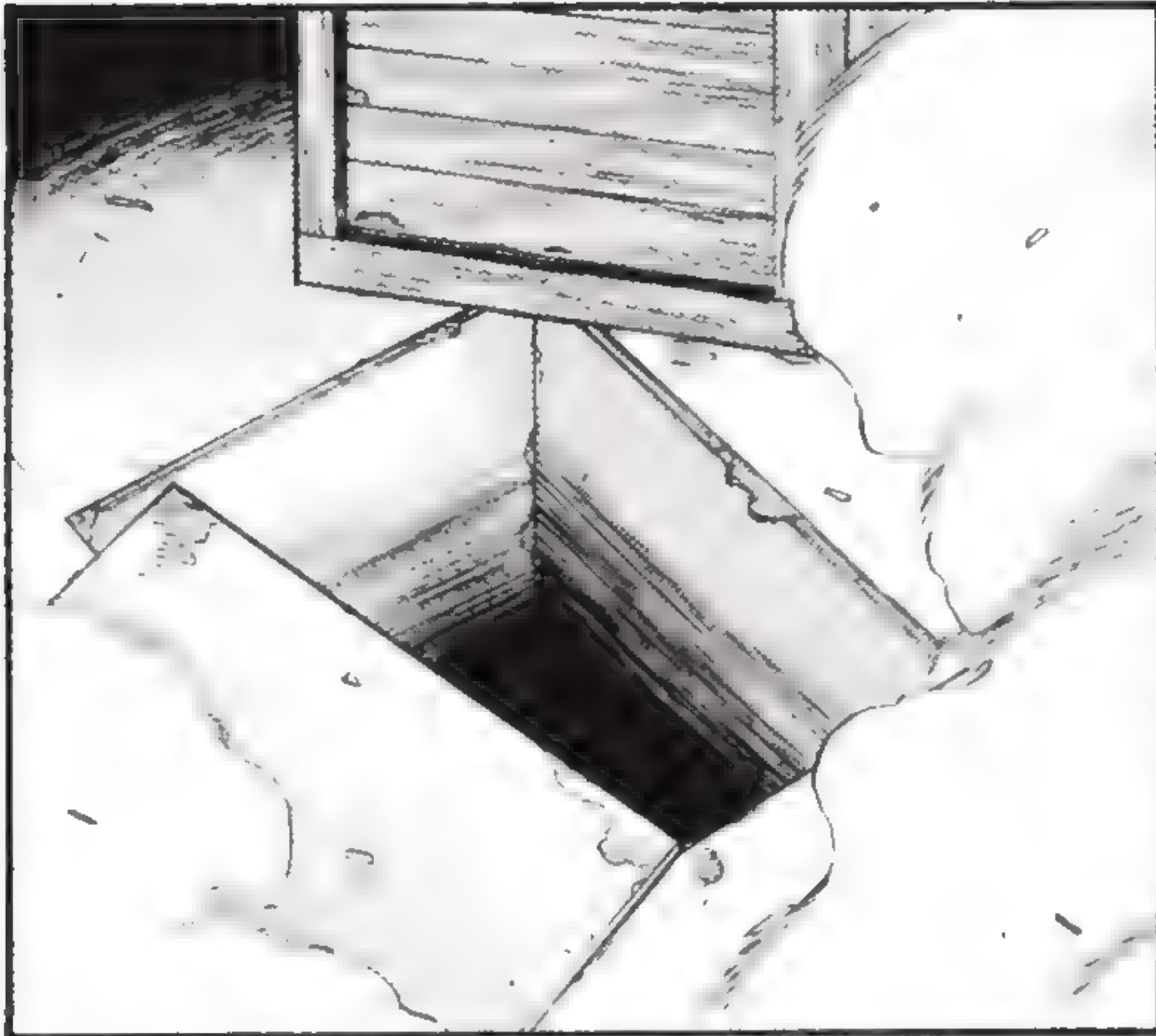
I KNEW
THERE WAS
SOMETHING
WEIRD
GOING ON.
THINGS
HAVE FELT
OFF THIS
WHOLE
TIME...

I
KNEW
SOME-
THING
WAS
WRONG
!!

BUT I
COULDN'T
MAKE THE
DECISION...
HELL, I RAN
FROM IT.
PUT MY
FINGERS IN
MY EARS
AND
PRETENDED
EVERYTHING
WAS OKAY.









WATCH WITH ME
AS WE FIND
OUT IF THAT
BOY IS
WORTHY
OF YOUR
TRUST...

WATCH,
LITTLE
HUMAN
GIRL.



OR
NOT.

.....



CHASE
HIM
DOWN.
CORNER
HIM...

THERE IS
NO NEED
TO BE
GENTLE
ABOUT
ANY
OF IT.



**DURING
INSPECTION**



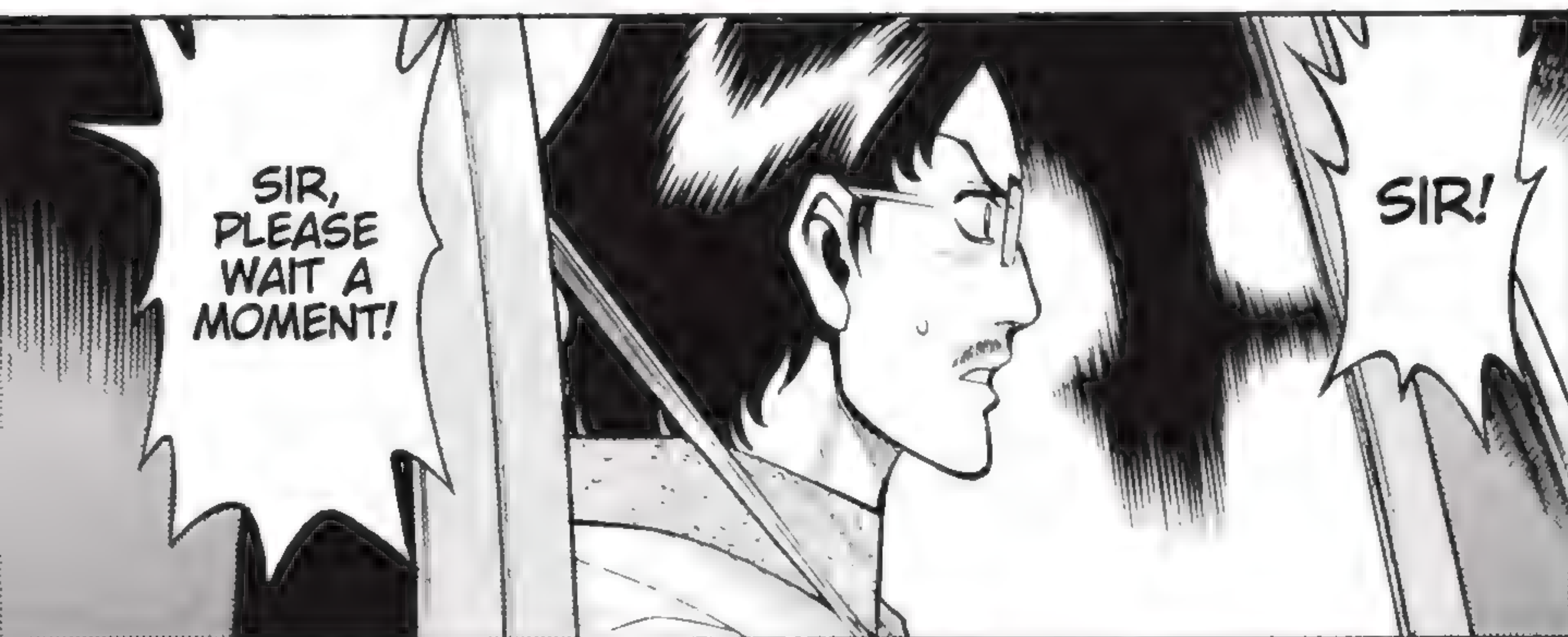
THAT I AM. COMPLICATIONS CROPPED UP IN A PATIENT WHO JUST HAD HIS FANGS REMOVED.

IT'S MY DAY OFF, BUT I WANT TO GO CHECK IN ON HIM.

DOCTOR SAJI! GOOD EVENING, SIR!

ARE YOU HEADED OFF TO THE MEDICAL CENTER?

EVENIN', BOYS. HOW'S THE SEARCH GOING?



SIR, PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT!

SIR!



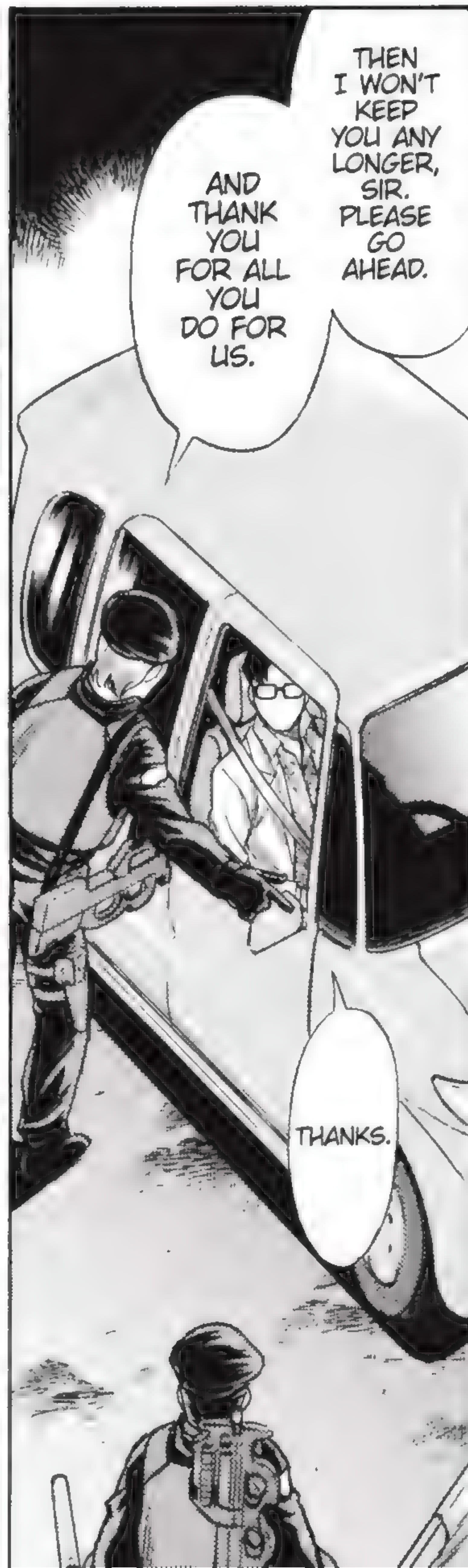
HER MAJESTY'S ORDERS WERE EXPLICIT.

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, DOCTOR.

MY PATIENT ISN'T GOING TO BE TOO HAPPY BEING LEFT TO WAIT IN PAIN, YOU KNOW...

EVERYONE IS TO BE SEARCHED, NO EXCEPTIONS.

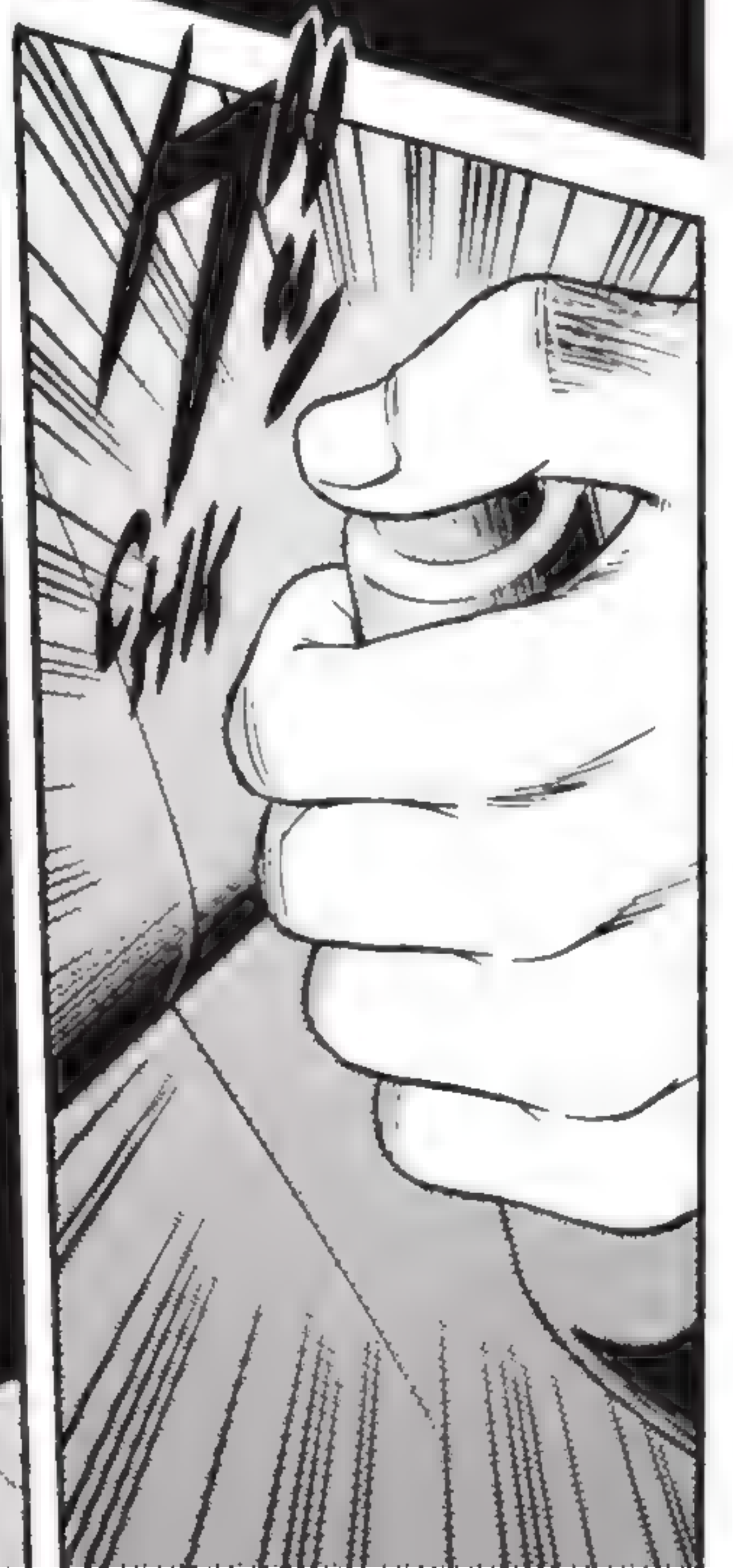
DO YOU MIND IF WE CHECK YOUR TRUNK?

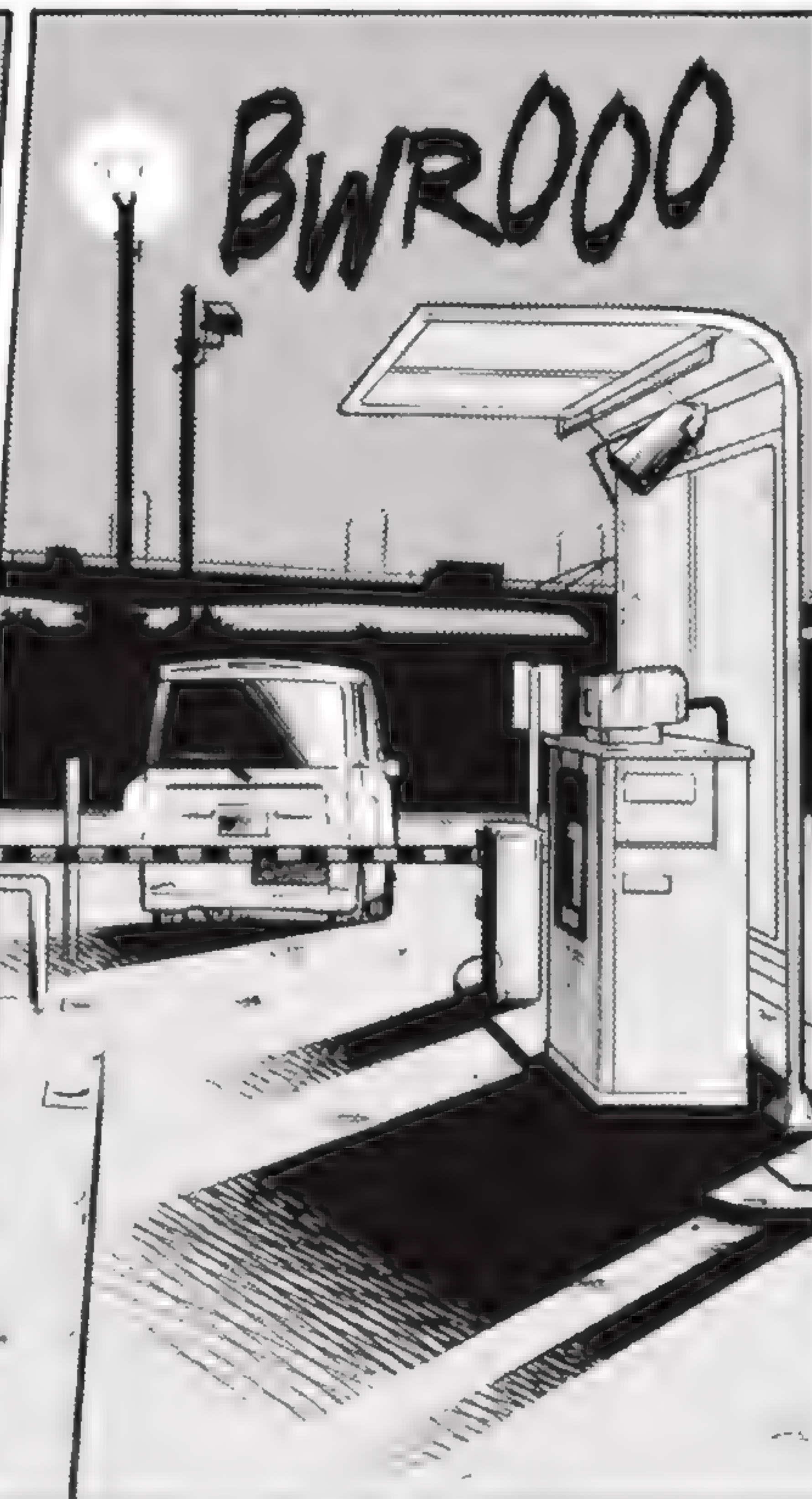
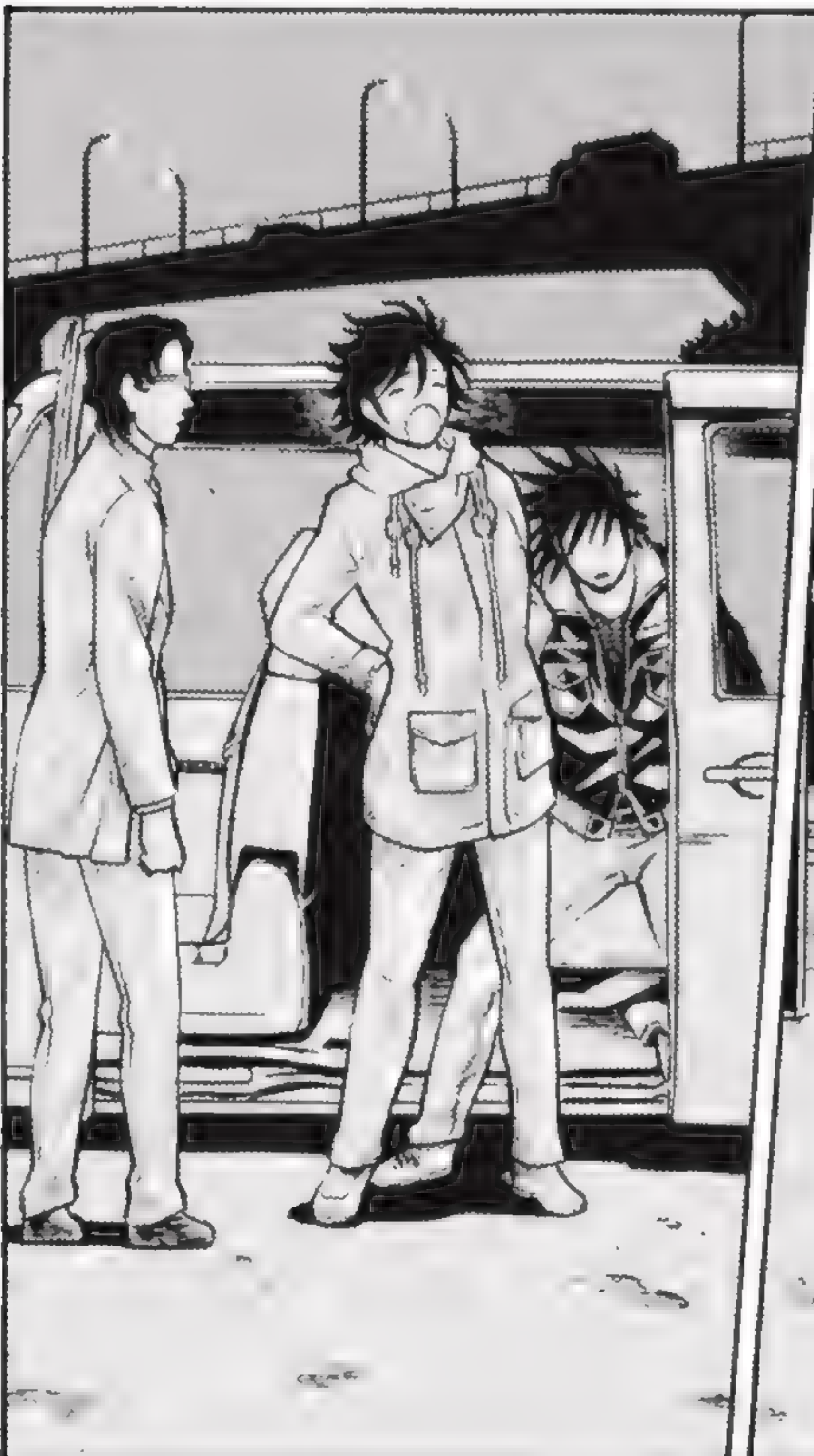


THEN I WON'T KEEP YOU ANY LONGER, SIR. PLEASE GO AHEAD.
AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR US.

THANKS.









IF YOU'RE
GOING TO
SNEAK IN,
NOW'S
YOUR
CHANCE.

WHO KNOWS?
THE ONLY
THING THAT'S
CERTAIN IS
THAT IT'S
THOROUGHLY
DISTRACTING
THE VGS.



I CAN'T
TELL
YOU HOW
MUCH I
APPRECIATE
YOU DOING
THIS FOR
ME.

THANKS,
DOCTOR
SAJI.



DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT, KID.
I WAS FEELING
SOME NIGGLING
UNEASE
OVER HER
MAJESTY'S...
UNUSUAL
BEHAVIOR
OF LATE
AS WELL.

ONCE
I HEARD
YOUR
STORY,
IT ALL
MADE
SENSE.

BUT
WHO'S
ATTACKING
US
THIS
TIME?

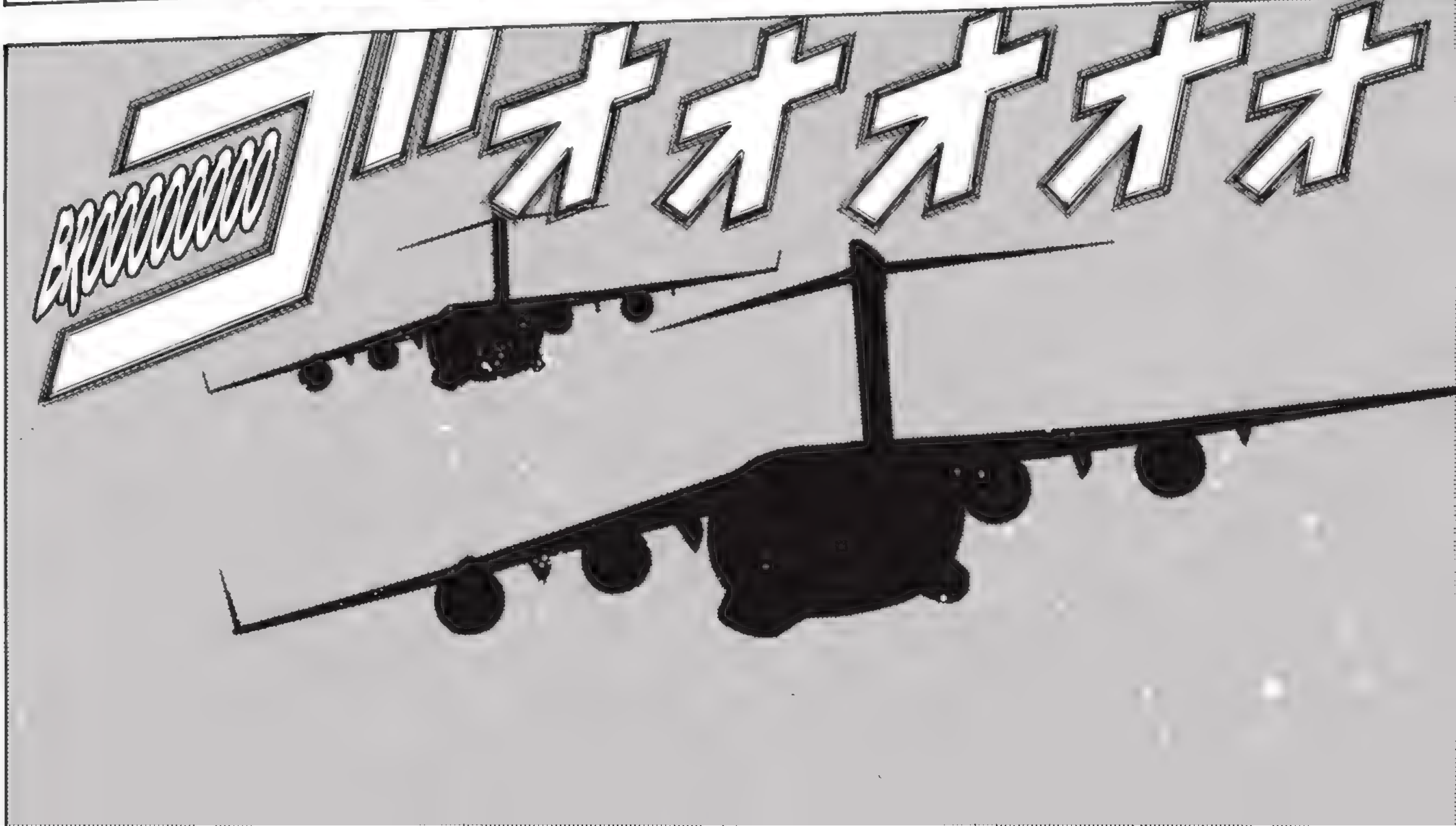
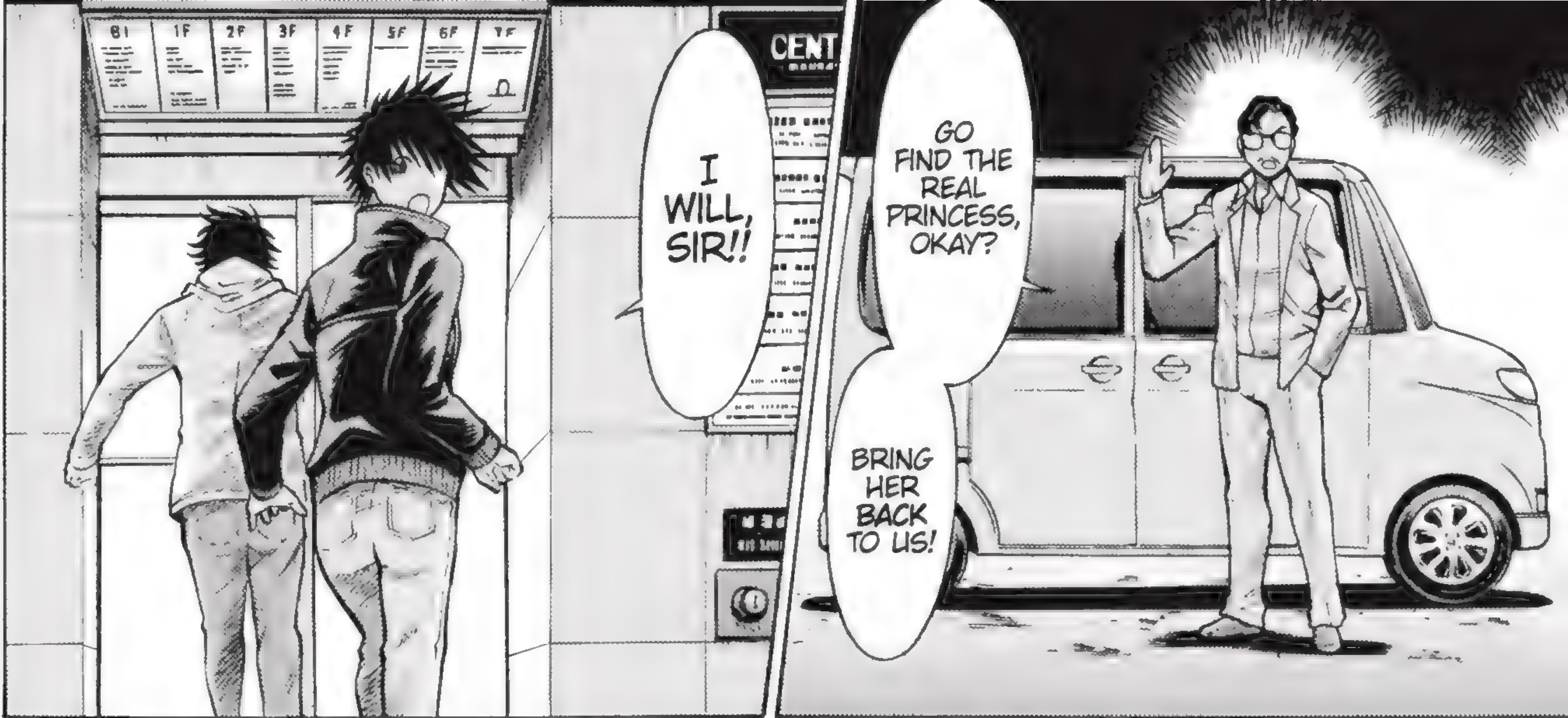


I KNOW
I'VE HEARD
THESE
SIRENS
SOMEWHERE
BEFORE,
BUT
WHERE...?



THIS ONE IS
THE SIGNAL
FOR AN
ENEMY
INVASION.

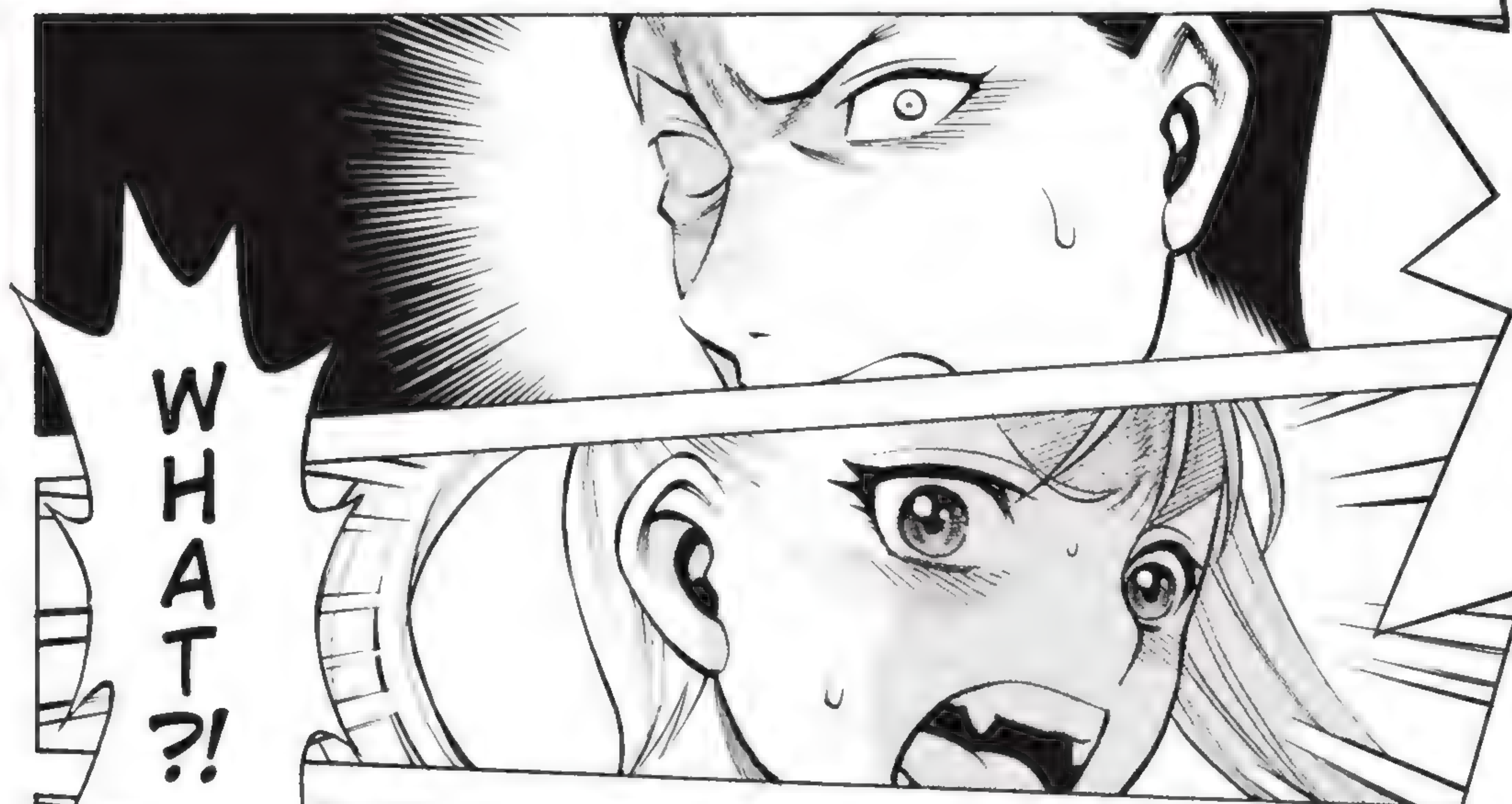
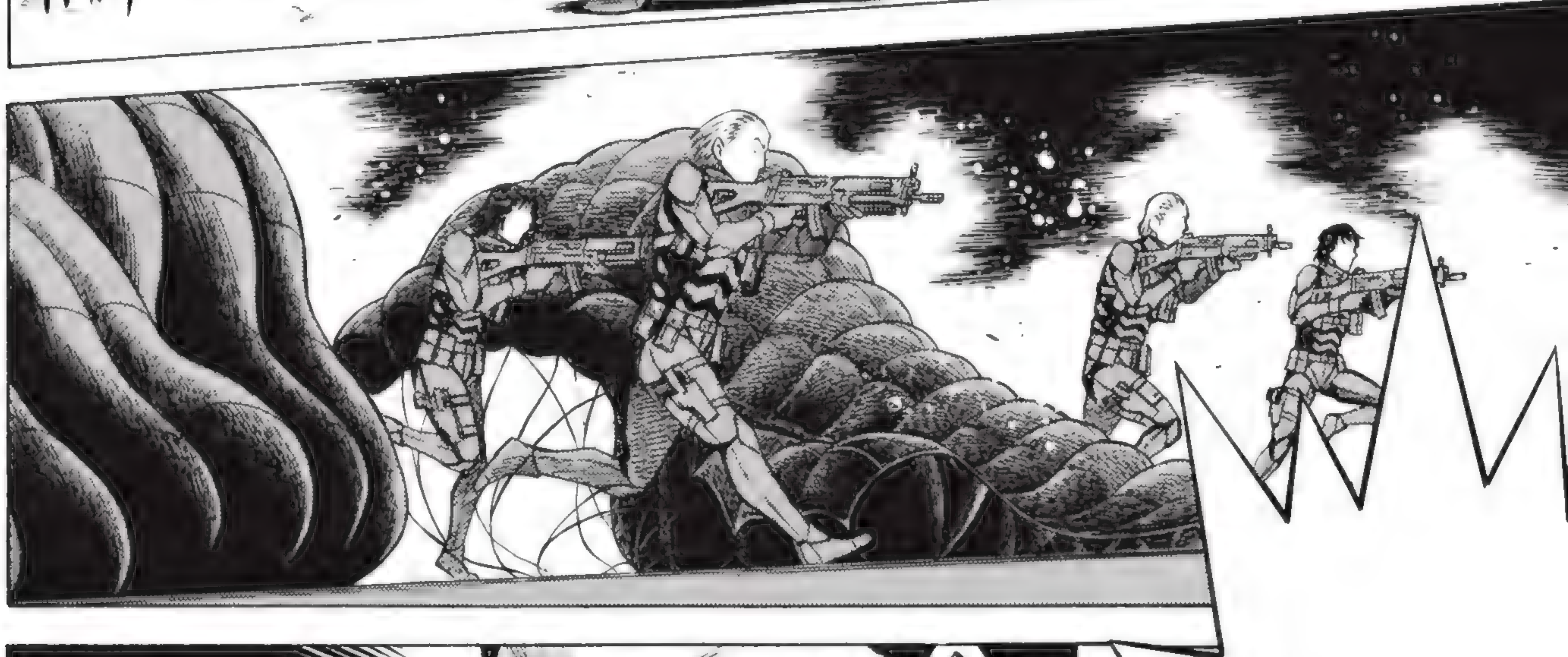
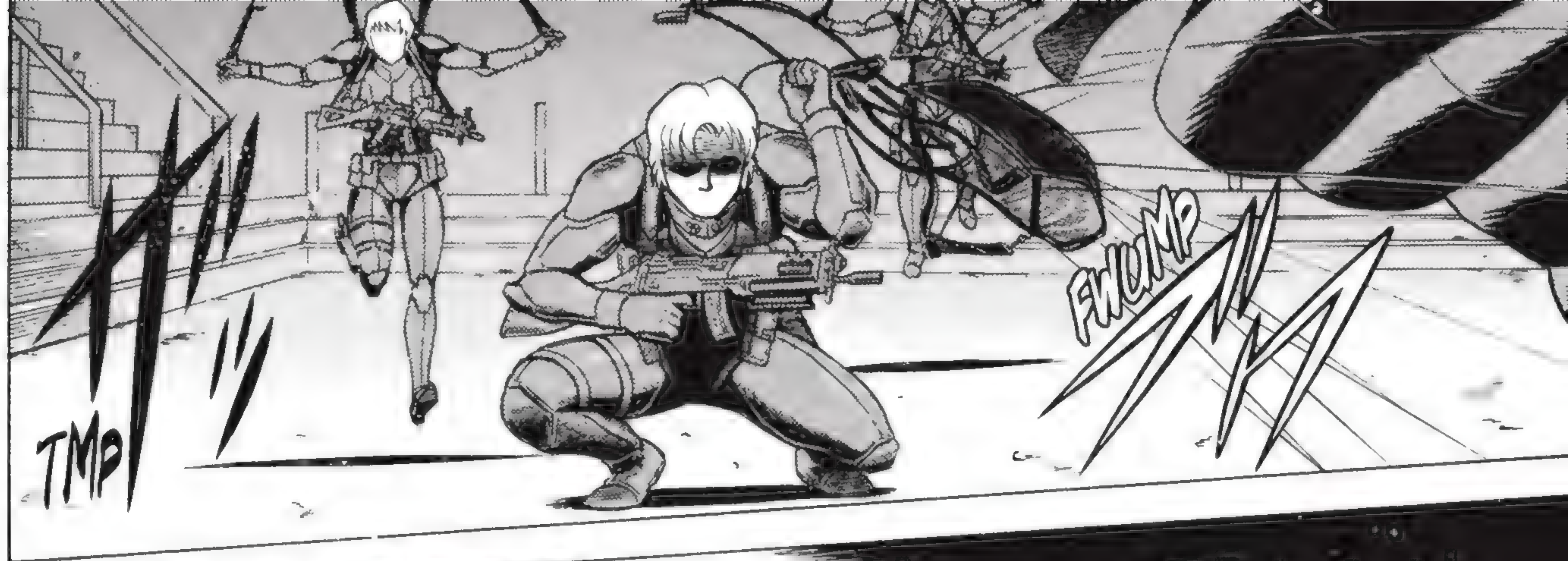
THE LAST
TIME THEY
WENT OFF
WAS WHEN
IVANOVIC
LAUNCHED
HIS
ATTACK...



NO...
YOUR
MAJESTY
...

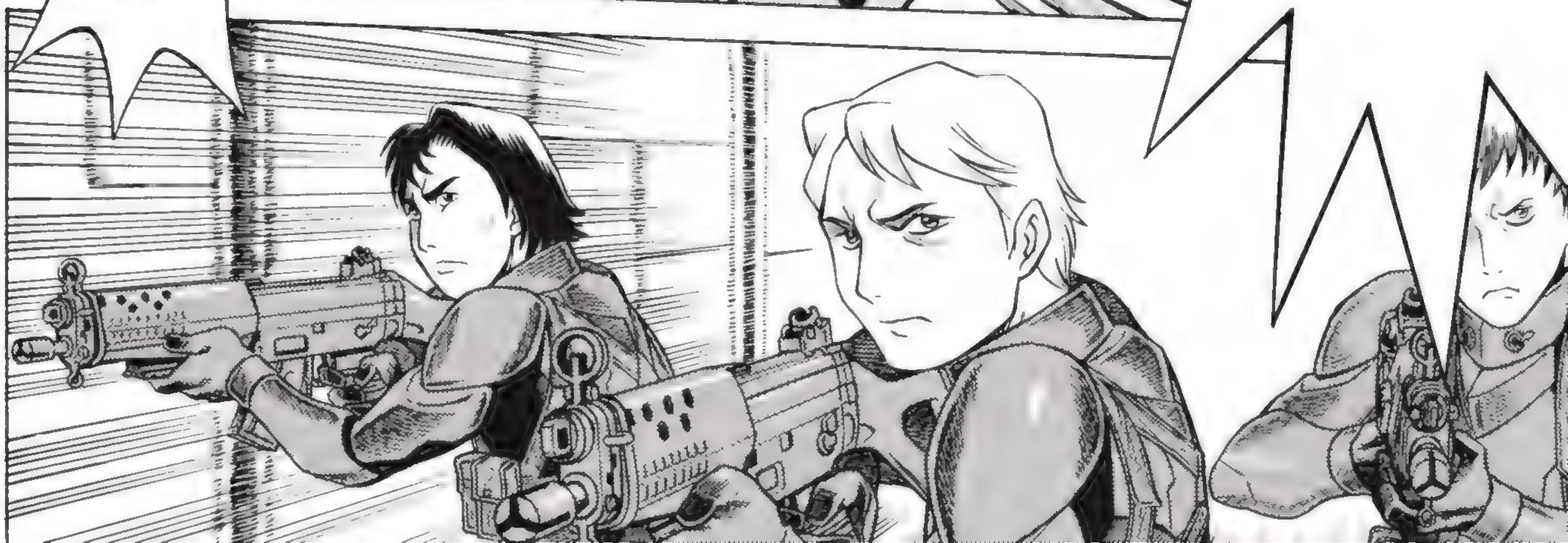
WHOSE
AIRCRAFT?!
LI?!
ROZEN-
MANN?!





WHAT?!

IT'S
BEO-
WULF!





WOLF ONE,
YOU ARE
CLEAR
TO
LAND!

HELIPORT
SECURED!



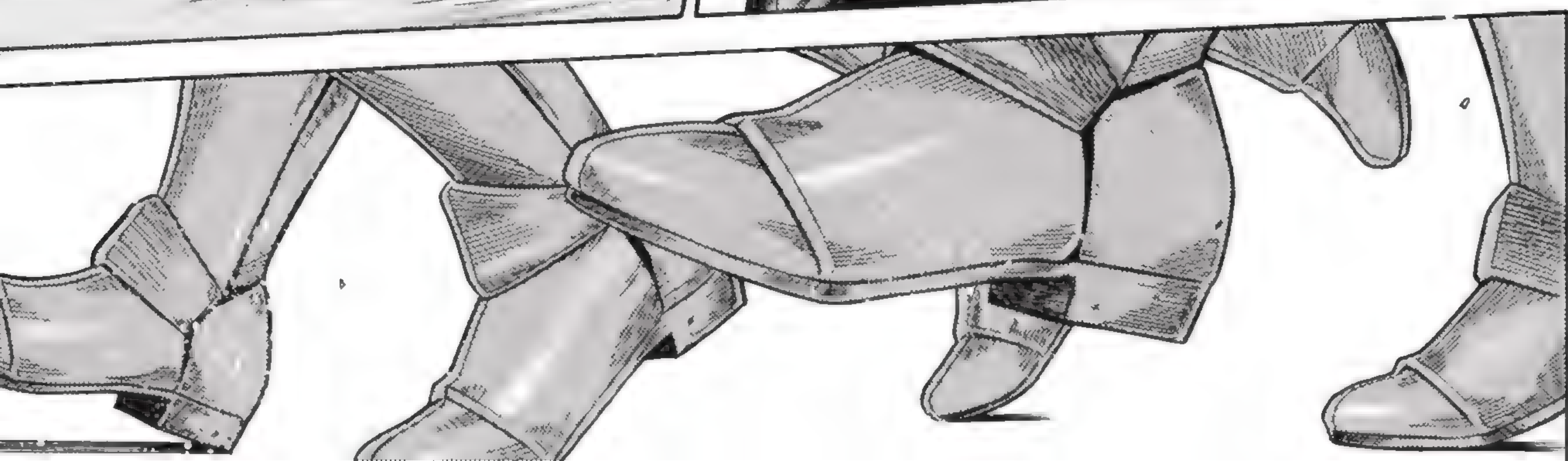
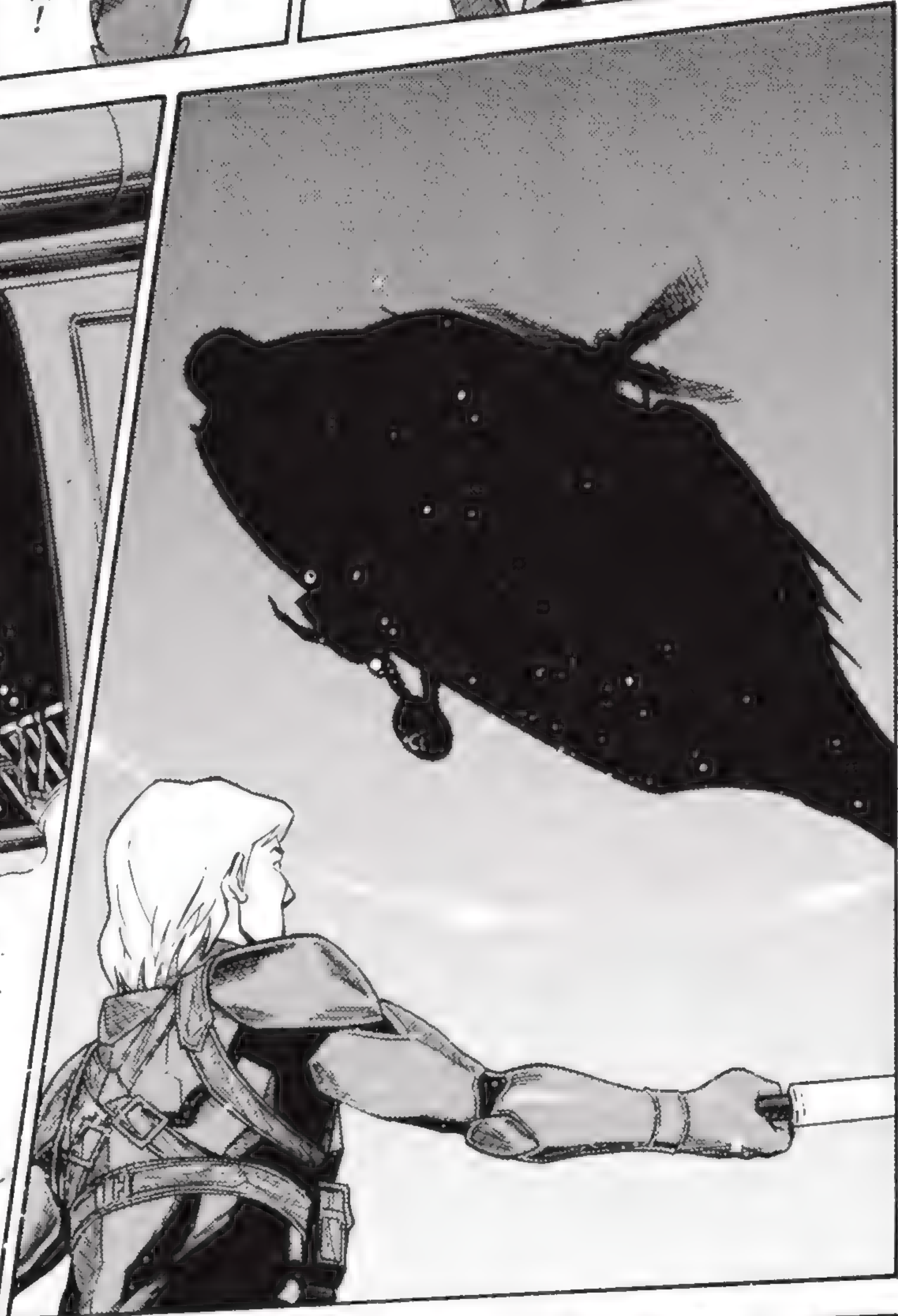
CLEAR!

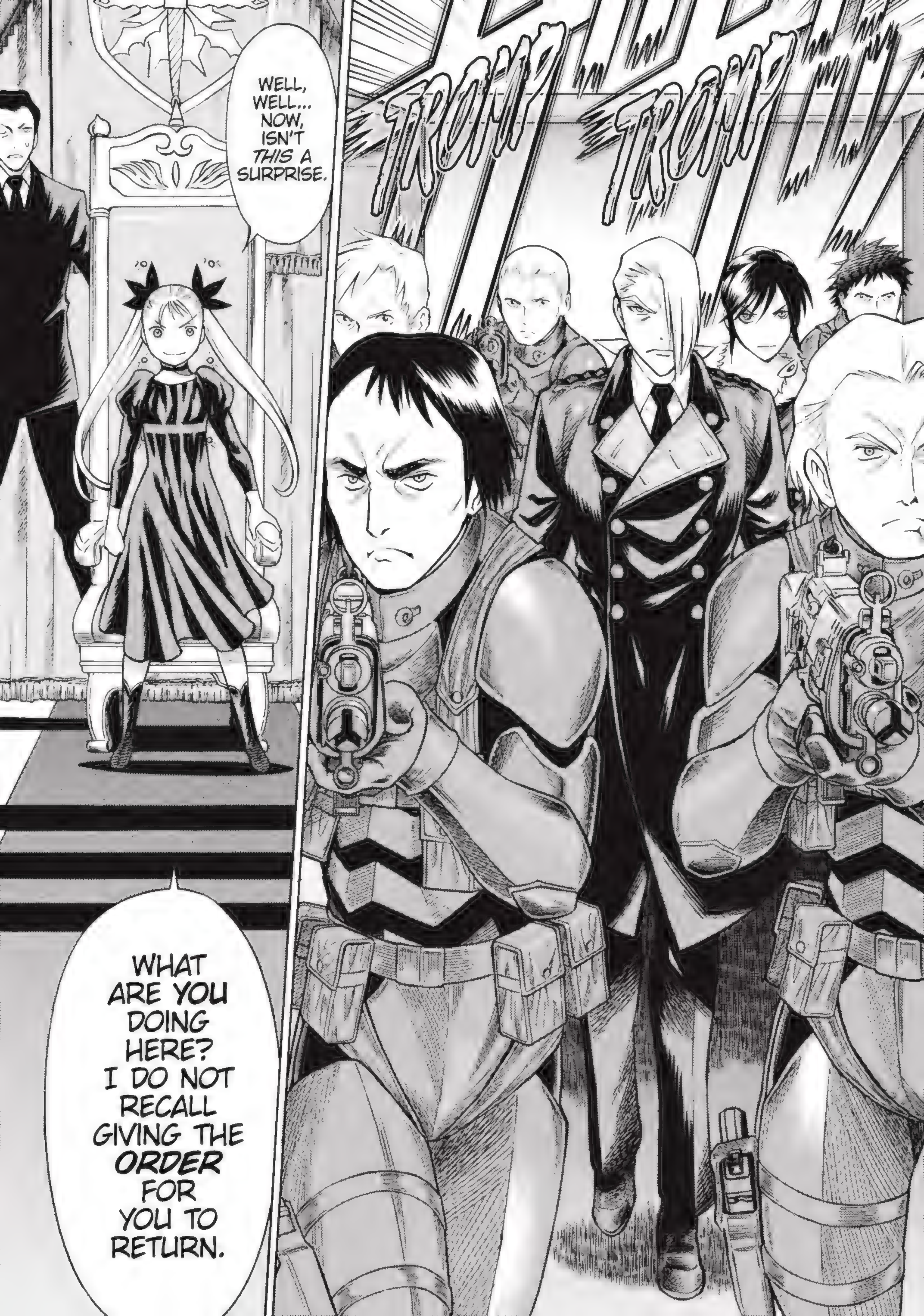
CENTRAL
CONTROL
ROOM
SE-
CURED!



FRONT
GATE
SE-
CURED!

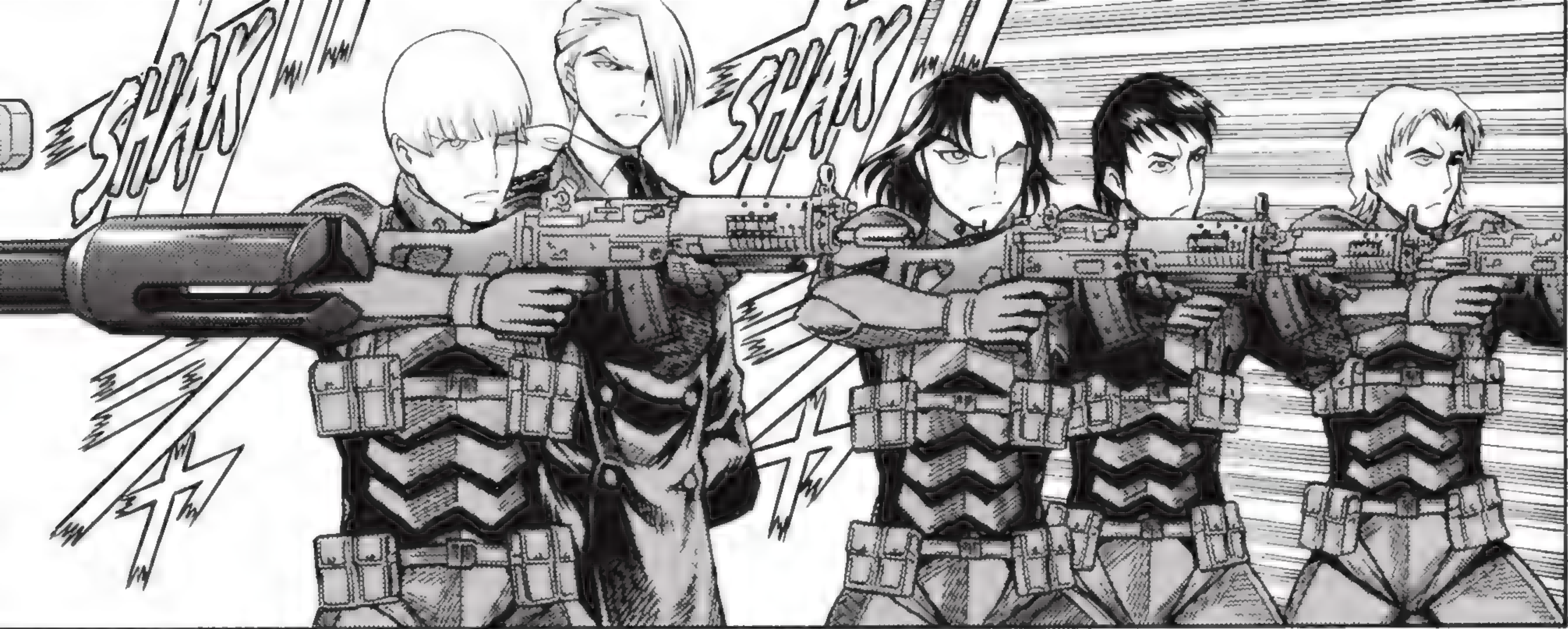
CLEAR!





WELL,
WELL...
NOW,
ISN'T
THIS A
SURPRISE.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?
I DO NOT
RECALL
GIVING THE
ORDER
FOR
YOU TO
RETURN.



SILENCE!!

**DO NOT
SPEAK TO
ME WITH
HIME-SAMA'S
VOICE, YOU
WRETCHED
IMPOSTER!!**



WHAT'S
WRONG,
VERA?
THIS
ISN'T LIKE
YOU.



STEP
AWAY
FROM
THE
THRONE.
NOW!

TMP



THAT
ENVELOPE
CONTAINS A
PHOTOGRAPH
TAKEN BY ONE
OF IVANOVIC'S
AGENTS
INSERTED INTO
ROZENMANN'S
COURT.



IT WAS
TAKEN SIX
MONTHS
AGO, IN
WASHINGTON,
D.C.



AND YOU SAY THAT IMPOSTER IS ME?



THIS EXPLAINS EVERYTHING!

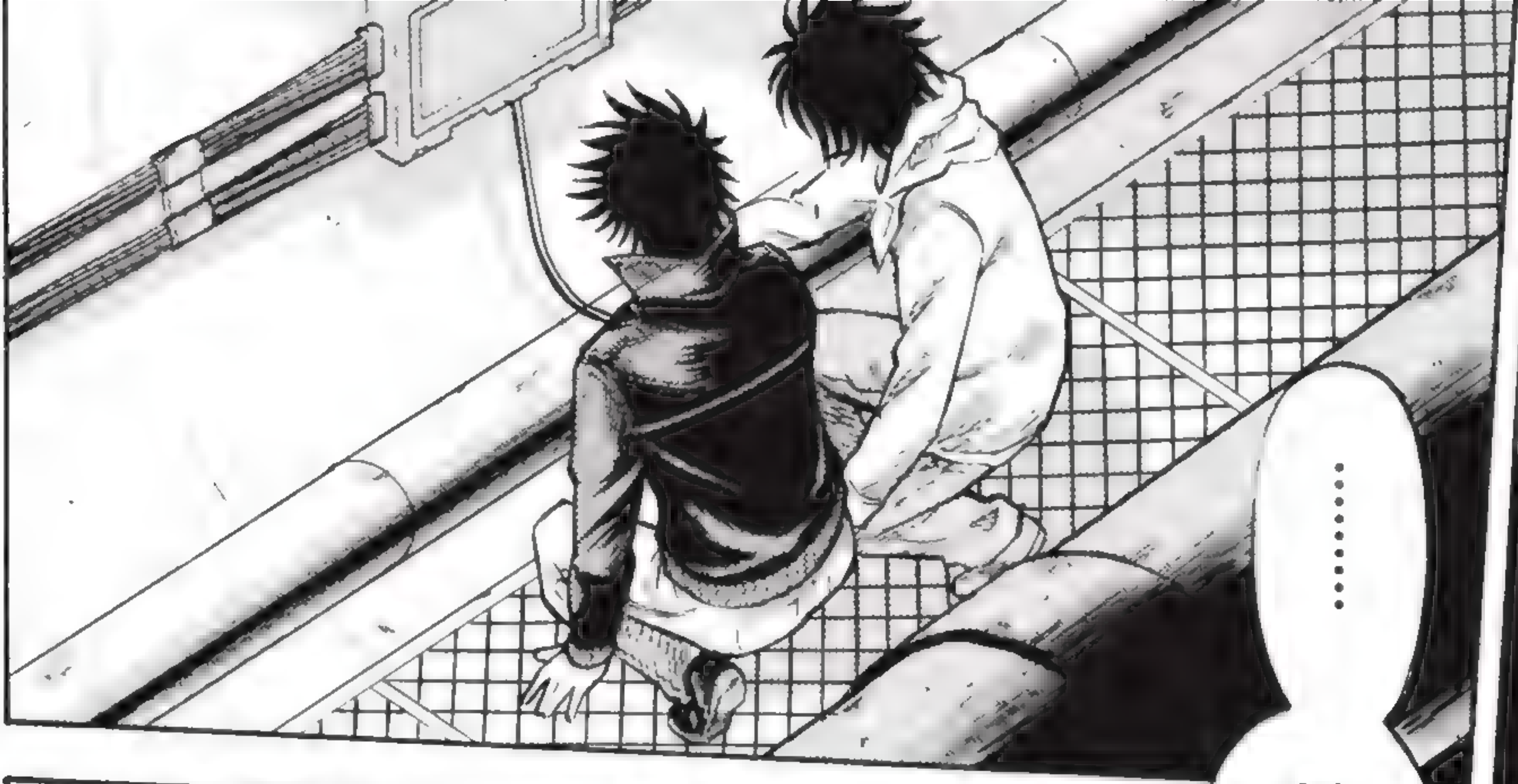
WHY ELSE YOU WOULD SIMPLY SIT HERE AND WATCH AS ROGUE VAMPIRES COMMIT ATROCITIES IN THE HUMAN CITY?!

WHY WOULD YOU SEND WOLFGANG-SAMA AND MYSELF-- HIME-SAMA'S CLOSEST GUARDS!-- OFF INTO THE HINTERLANDS OF RUSSIA?!



SIX MONTHS AGO, HER MAJESTY WAS IN A COMA, FIGHTING OFF THE POISON OF THE PIED PIPER!

THAT MEANS THE "PRINCESS" SHOWN IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH IS NOT THE TRUE PRINCESS!!



.....
OH SHIT...
THINGS
JUST
GOT
REALLY
BAD
DOWN
THERE.

BECAUSE
YOU
AREN'T
HER
MAJESTY
!!

WHERE
HAVE YOU
HIDDEN
HER?!
WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE
WITH OUR
TRUE
PRINCESS
?!

VERA,
PUT
AWAY
YOUR
BLADES.

DID YOU NOT HEAR A WORD I JUST SAID?!

THIS IS NOT HER MAJESTY! SHE IS AN IMPOSTER !!

DUKE BOR-
GIANI!

YOU INSULT OUR QUEEN.

SHE IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE PRINCESS MINA.

NO.

AL-
PHONSE-
SAMA!!

!

EVERY-
THING.
FROM
THE
VERY
BEGIN-
NING.

YOU KNEW, DIDN'T YOU, DUKE BORGIANI ?



DO YOU
NOW
DEFILE
THEIR
GOOD
NAME WITH
THIS BASE
TREACHERY
?!

DUKE
BORGIANI,
YOUR
FATHER
AND HIS
FATHER
BEFORE HIM
SERVED
HOUSE
TEPES
FAITHFULLY
AND DIED
GLORIOUSLY
IN SERVICE
TO HER
MAJESTY
...



WHAT
...?



ALPHONSE...
ENOUGH.



QUIET!!

DO NOT
DEFILE
HER
MAJESTY'S
NAME
WITH YOUR
TRAITOROUS
TONGUE
AGAIN!!



MY
LOYALTY
HAS NOT
WAVERED
SO MUCH
AS AN
INCH.

I ALWAYS
HAVE, AND I
ALWAYS WILL,
GIVE MY ALL
IN FAITHFUL
SERVICE
TO HOUSE
TEPES...
AND TO ITS
PRINCESS
MINA.

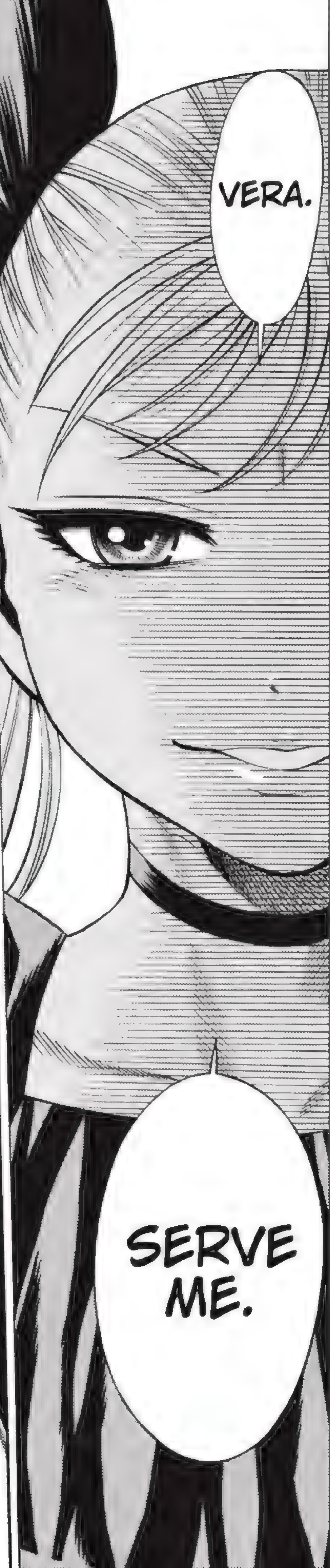


AS
YOUR
MASTER,
I
ORDER
YOU...

YOU.
WILL.
SERVE.
ME.



V
E
R
A
!!



VERA.

SERVE
ME.



NOW,
DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND?

**I AM
MINA
TEPES
!!**



IT... IT
CANNOT
BE...

IT
CAN'T...!
IT'S...
IMPOSSIBLE
!!



WHA
...?




THE STORY
GOES ON
THAT
TWENTY
YEARS
LATER,
WE WERE
REUNITED...

BUT THAT
STORY IS
FALSE!
I WAS STILL
A PRISONER
OF ROZEN-
MANN.

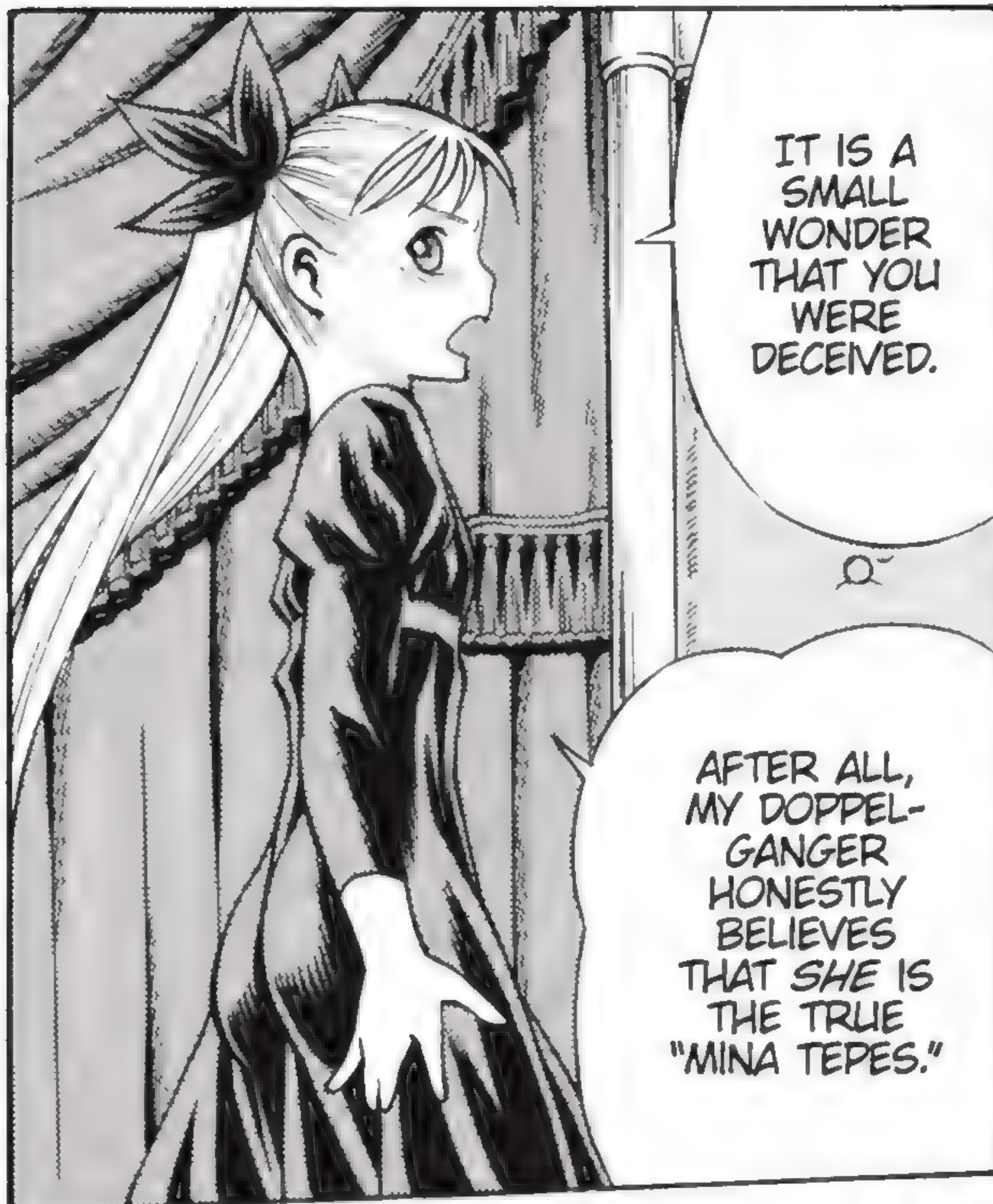
ONE OF
ROZENMANN'S
INSIDIOUS
PLANS WORKED,
SEPARATING ME
FROM YOUR
PROTECTION
AND LEAVING
ME TO WANDER,
HELPLESS
AND ALONE,
IN THE WORLD
OF MEN.

YOU
MUST
REMEMBER
THE
EVENTS
OF TWO
HUNDRED
YEARS
AGO!



THE "MINA"
YOU WERE
REUNITED
WITH WAS
A DOPPEL-
GANGER...

A FAKE
WHO
TOOK
EVERY-
THING
THAT WAS
MEANT
TO BE
MINE!!



BUT ACCEPT
THAT THE
"MINA" MY
MOTHER
BIRTHED,
THE "MINA"
YOU HAVE
CHERISHED
SO LONG...
IS ME.

ACCEPT
THAT,
AND
TRUST
ME.

VERA...
I WILL NOT
ASK YOU TO
SWALLOW
THIS WHOLE.
NOT ALL
AT ONCE.

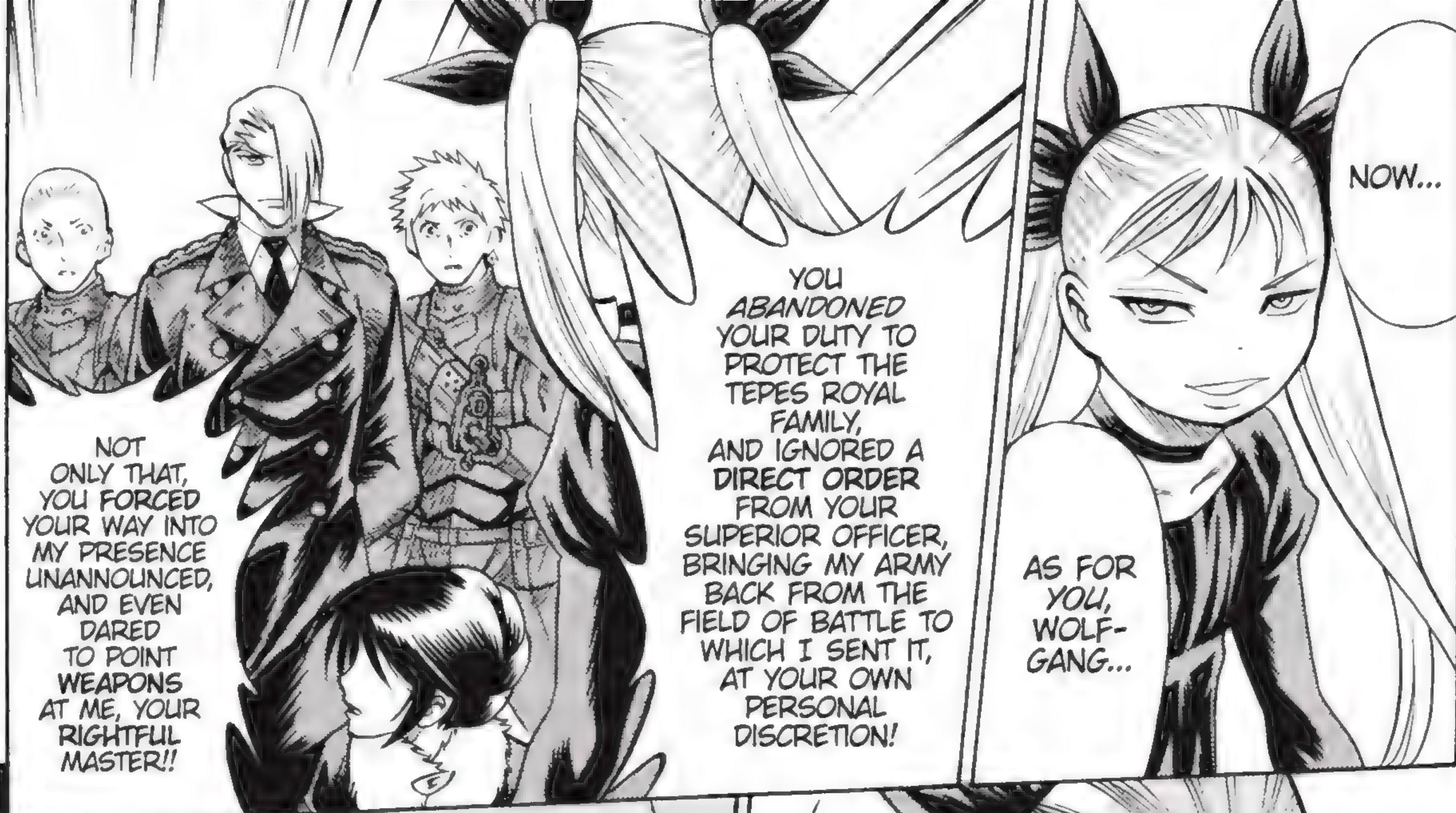
YES,
ALPHONSE
KNEW
ALL
THIS.

AND WITH HIS
TRUE MASTER
RETURNED,
HE HAS GIVEN
HIS SUPPORT
TO ME,
PROVING
HIMSELF MY
LOYAL
RETAINER!

AKIRA
...

NO
...

N
O
O
O
!!!



NOT ONLY THAT, YOU FORCED YOUR WAY INTO MY PRESENCE UNANNOUNCED, AND EVEN DARED TO POINT WEAPONS AT ME, YOUR RIGHTFUL MASTER!!

YOU ABANDONED YOUR DUTY TO PROTECT THE TEPE'S ROYAL FAMILY, AND IGNORED A DIRECT ORDER FROM YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICER, BRINGING MY ARMY BACK FROM THE FIELD OF BATTLE TO WHICH I SENT IT, AT YOUR OWN PERSONAL DISCRETION!

AS FOR YOU, WOLF-GANG...

NOW...



DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY IN YOUR DEFENSE ?!

THIS IS REBEL-LION!





HENCEFORTH,
I CEDE ANY
AND ALL
COMMAND OF
BEOWULF TO
THE EARTH
CLAN
SENATE.

ALL
BEOWULF
DIVISIONS
ARE TO
DISARM
AND STAND
DOWN.



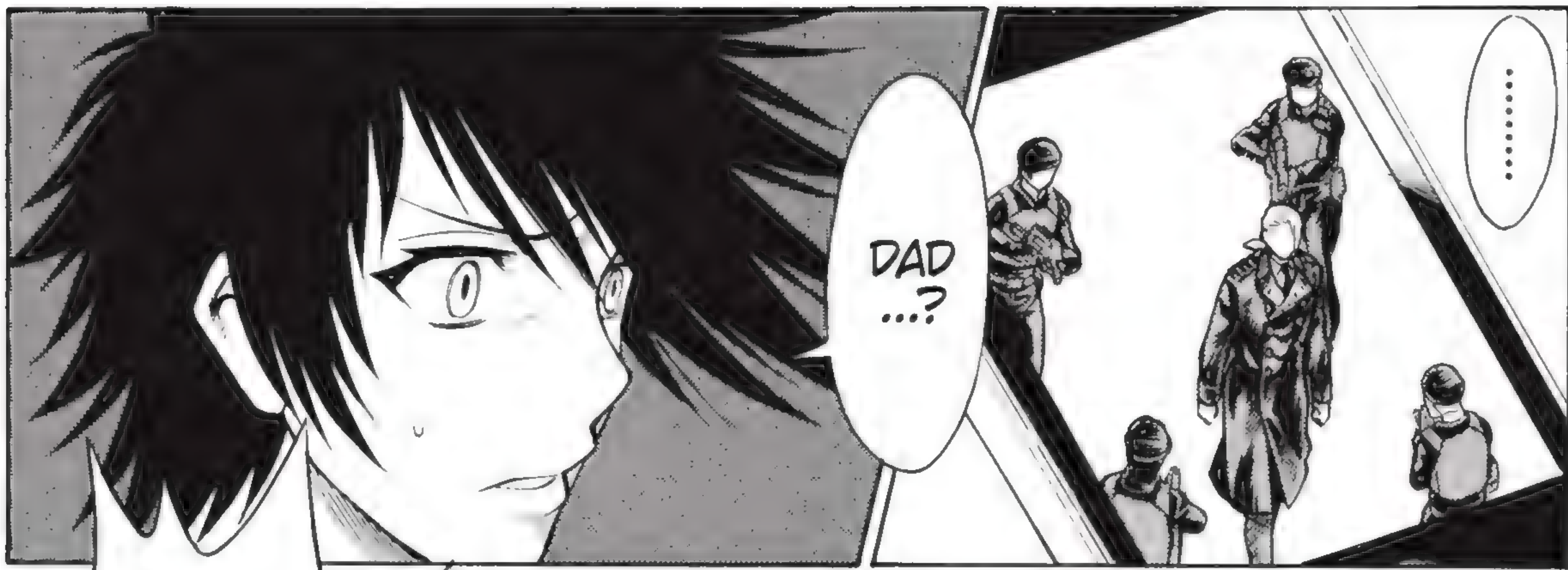
I WILL
NOT
HAVE THIS
PLACE
BECOME A
BATTLE-
FIELD...

HER
MAJESTY
DOES NOT
WISH HER
SUBJECTS
TO SHED
BLOOD
AMONGST
THEM-
SELVES.

THAT
IS MY
FINAL
ORDER!

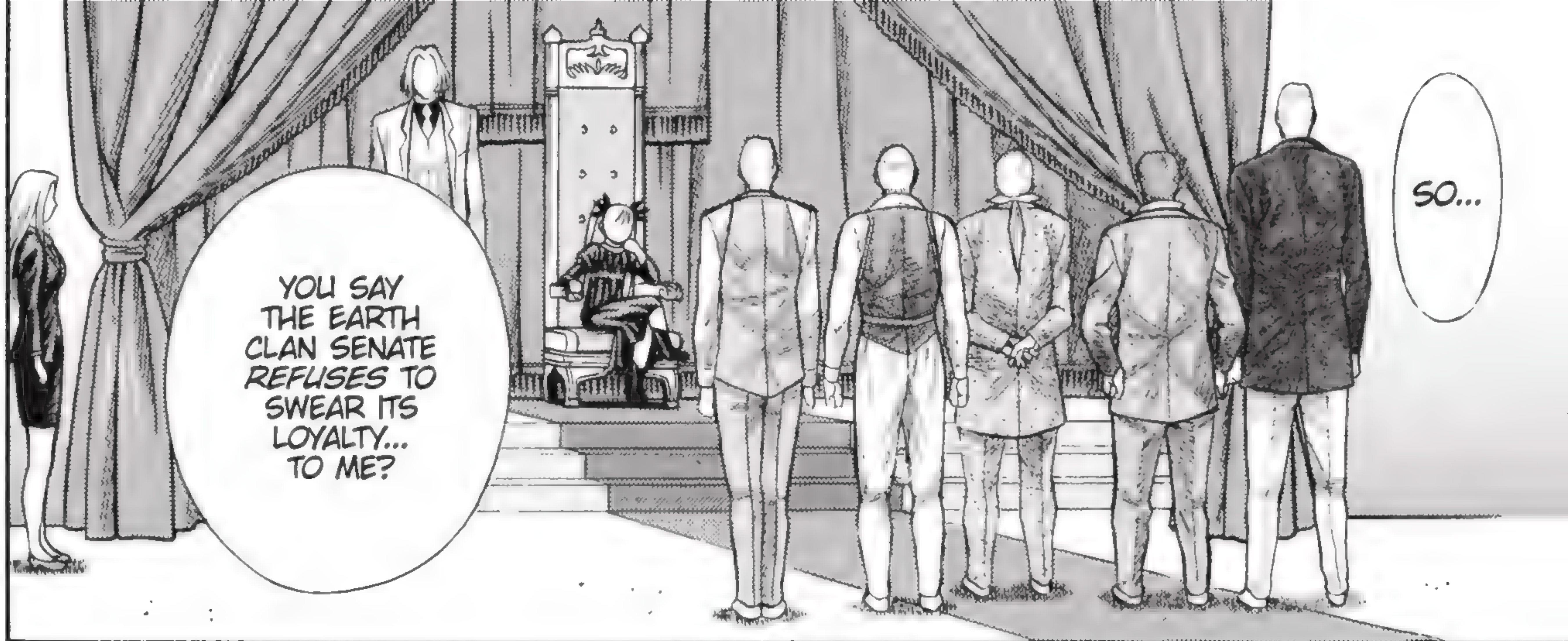
BUT,
SIR
....!

WOLF-
GANG-
SAMA!



Chapter 64: Exit through the Vampire Bund





YOU SAY
THE EARTH
CLAN SENATE
REFUSES TO
SWEAR ITS
LOYALTY...
TO ME?

SO...



PRE-
CISELY.

THUS,
WE ARE NOT
DUTY-BOUND
TO SERVE
THE ROYAL
FAMILY IN
THE VERY
LEAST.



A
PETTY
EXCUSE.

THE VAST
MAJORITY OF
THE EARTH
CLAN HAS
CONTINUED
TO SERVE
THE ROYAL
FAMILY FOR
CENTURIES.

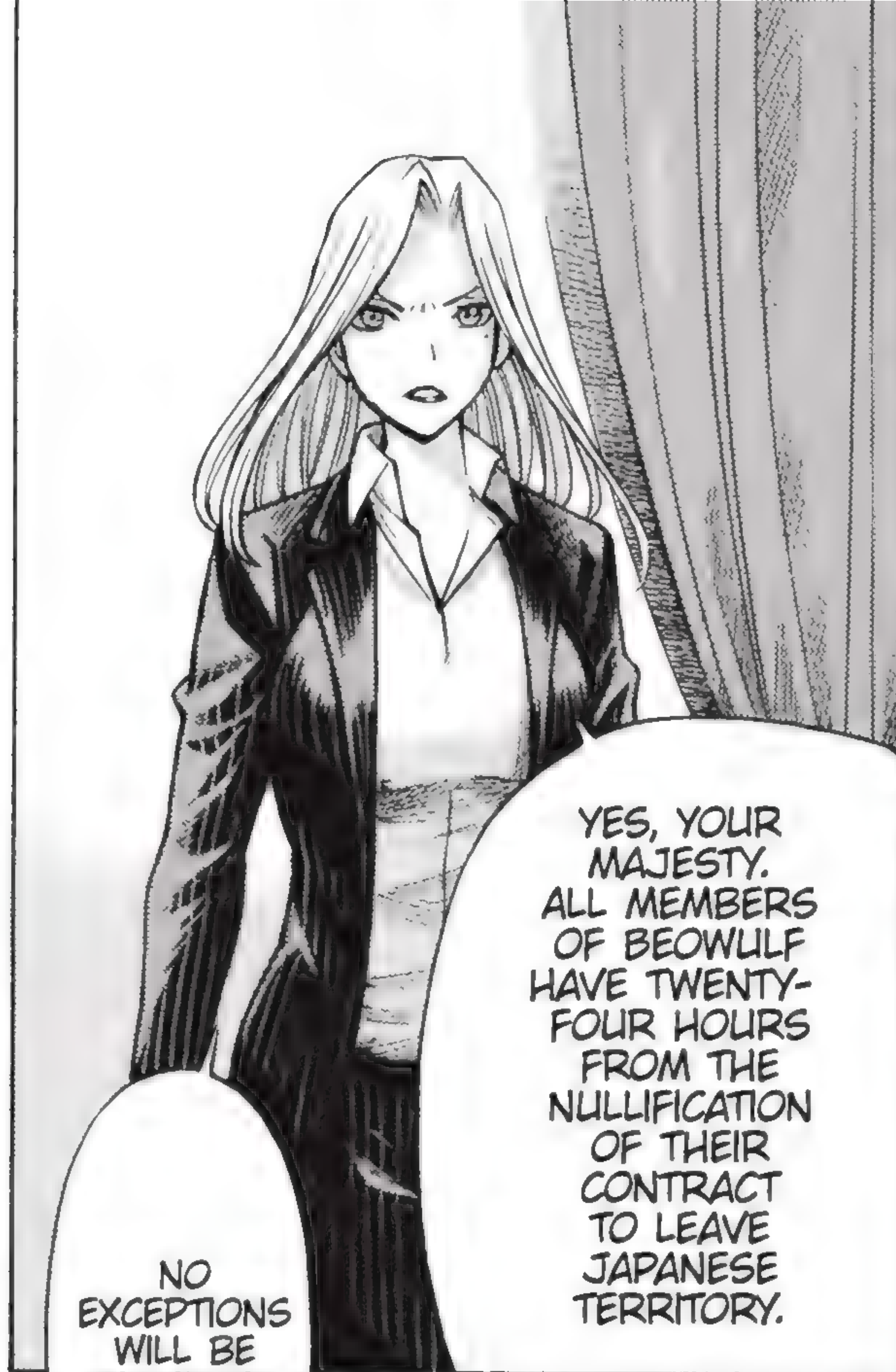


THAT IS
CORRECT.

CENTURIES AGO,
WHEN THE
EARTH CLAN
FIRST FORMED
THE SENATE
AND INVESTED IT
AS THE HIGHEST
GOVERNING BODY
OF THE CLAN,
ALL TIES OF
LOYALTY TO
HOUSE TEPE'S
WERE CUT.

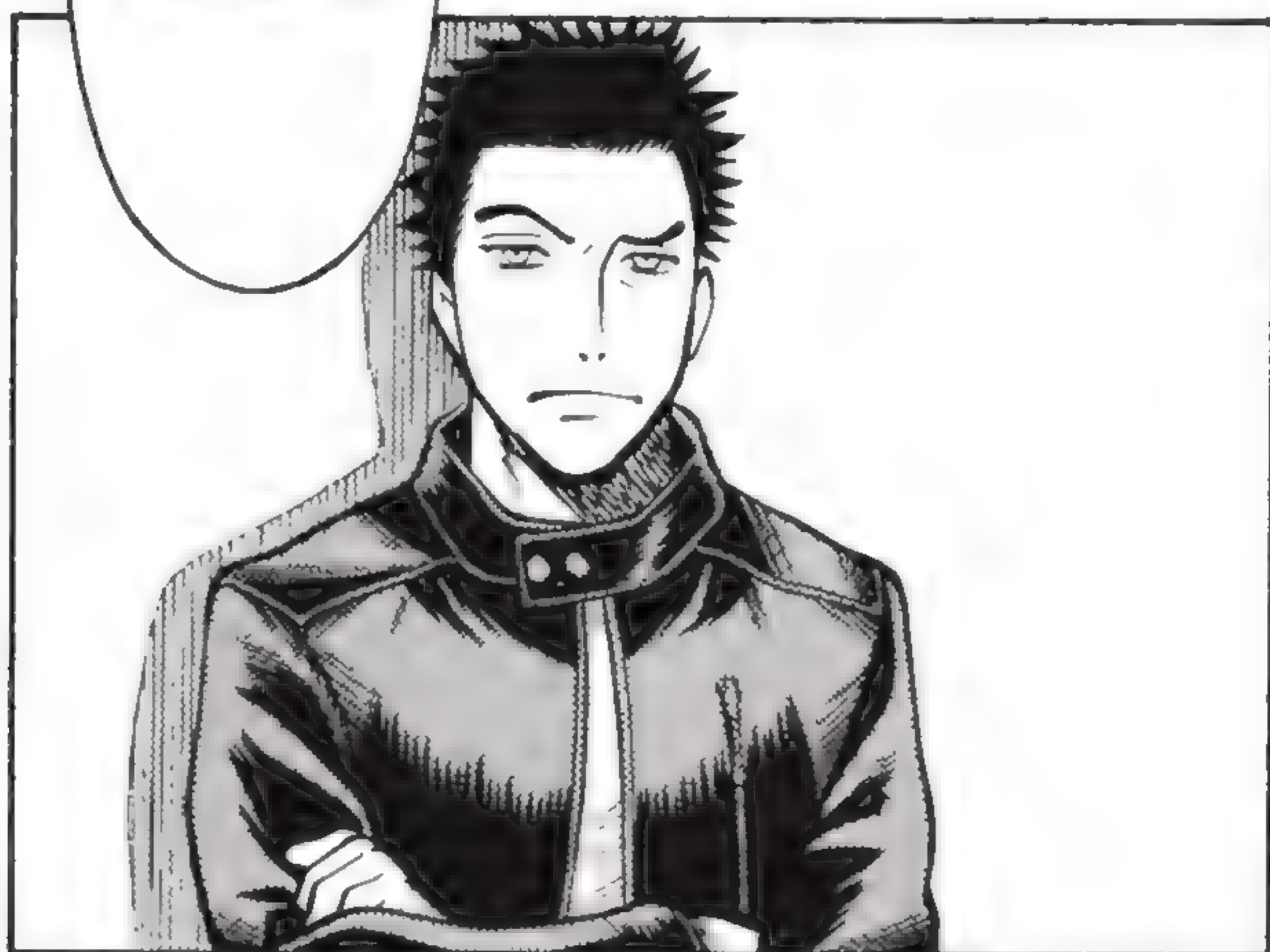
YOU SEE,
AS A
GOVERNMENT
UNTO
OURSELVES,
WE COULD NOT
MAINTAIN AN
APPROPRIATE
IMPARTIALITY IF
MOST OF OUR
MEMBERS
OWED A DEBT
OF FEALTY
TO A SINGLE
VAMPIRE
CLAN.





YES, YOUR
MAJESTY.
ALL MEMBERS
OF BEOWULF
HAVE TWENTY-
FOUR HOURS
FROM THE
NULLIFICATION
OF THEIR
CONTRACT
TO LEAVE
JAPANESE
TERRITORY.

NO
EXCEPTIONS
WILL BE
PERMITTED.



HOWEVER,
DO BE AWARE
THAT BEOWULF
WAS PERMITTED
TO EXIST ONLY
BECAUSE IT WAS
SO GRANTED
THE HONOR OF
PROTECTING
MINA TEPESES.

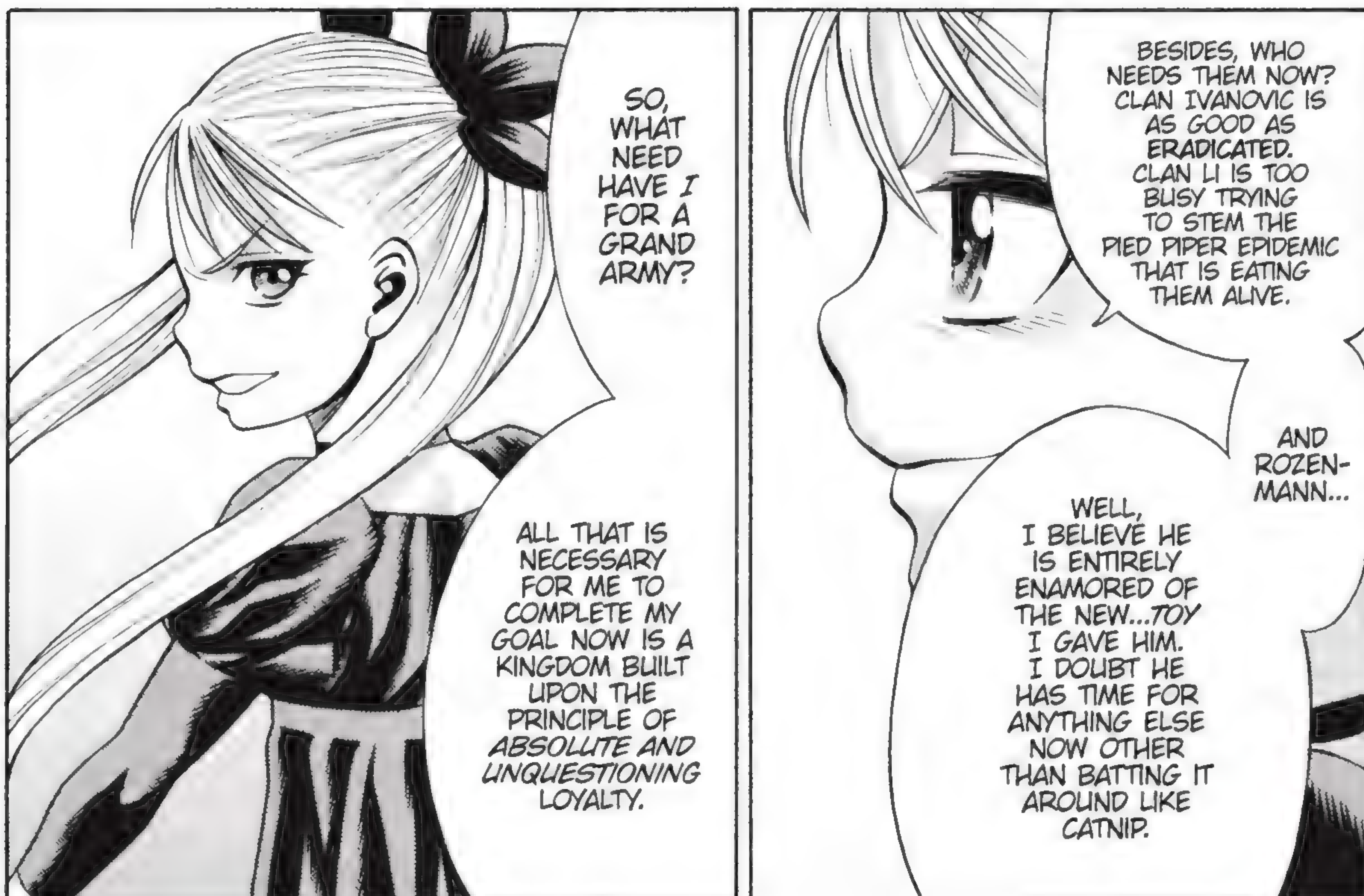
IS THAT
NOT
CORRECT,
COUN-
CILOR
GOTOH?

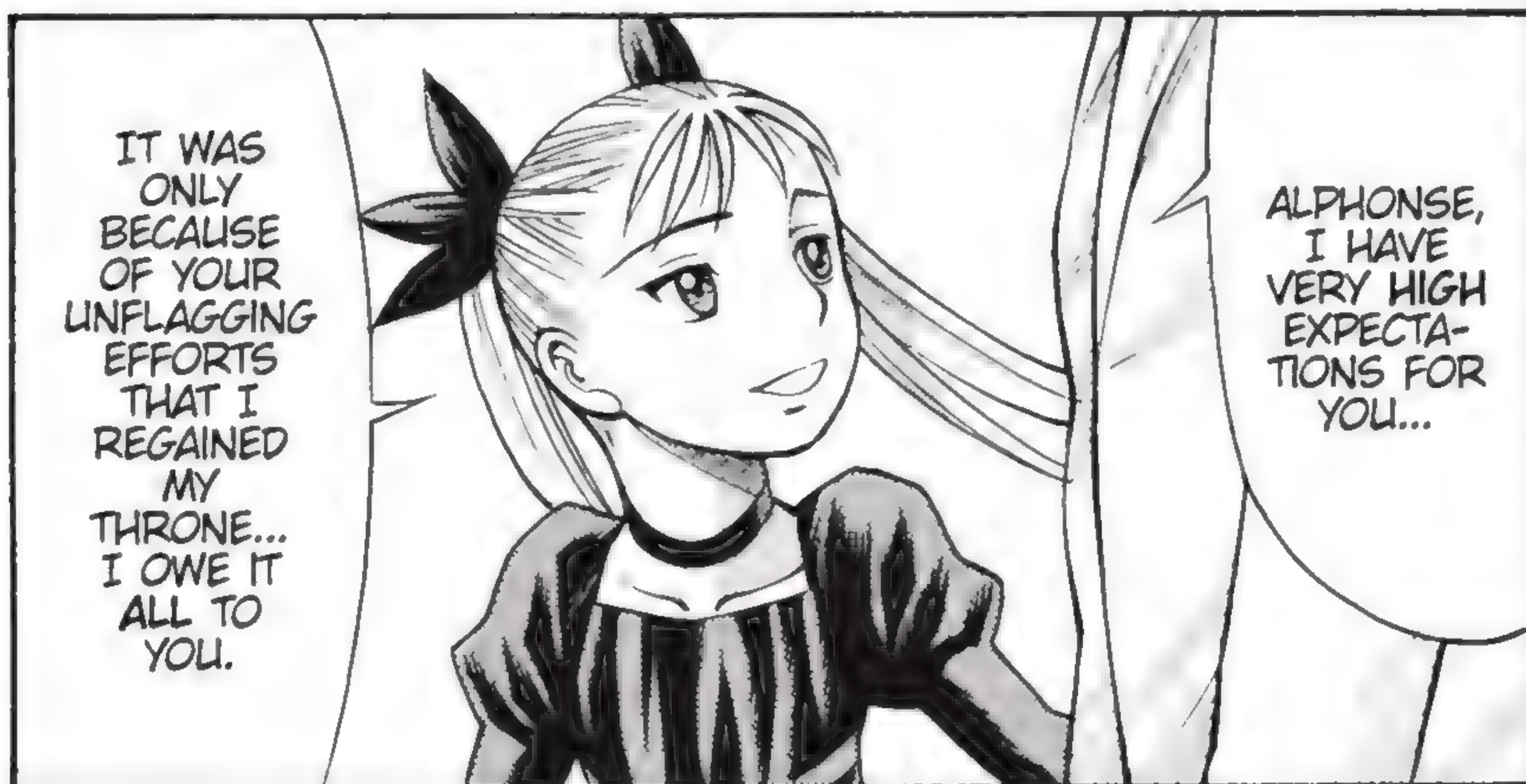
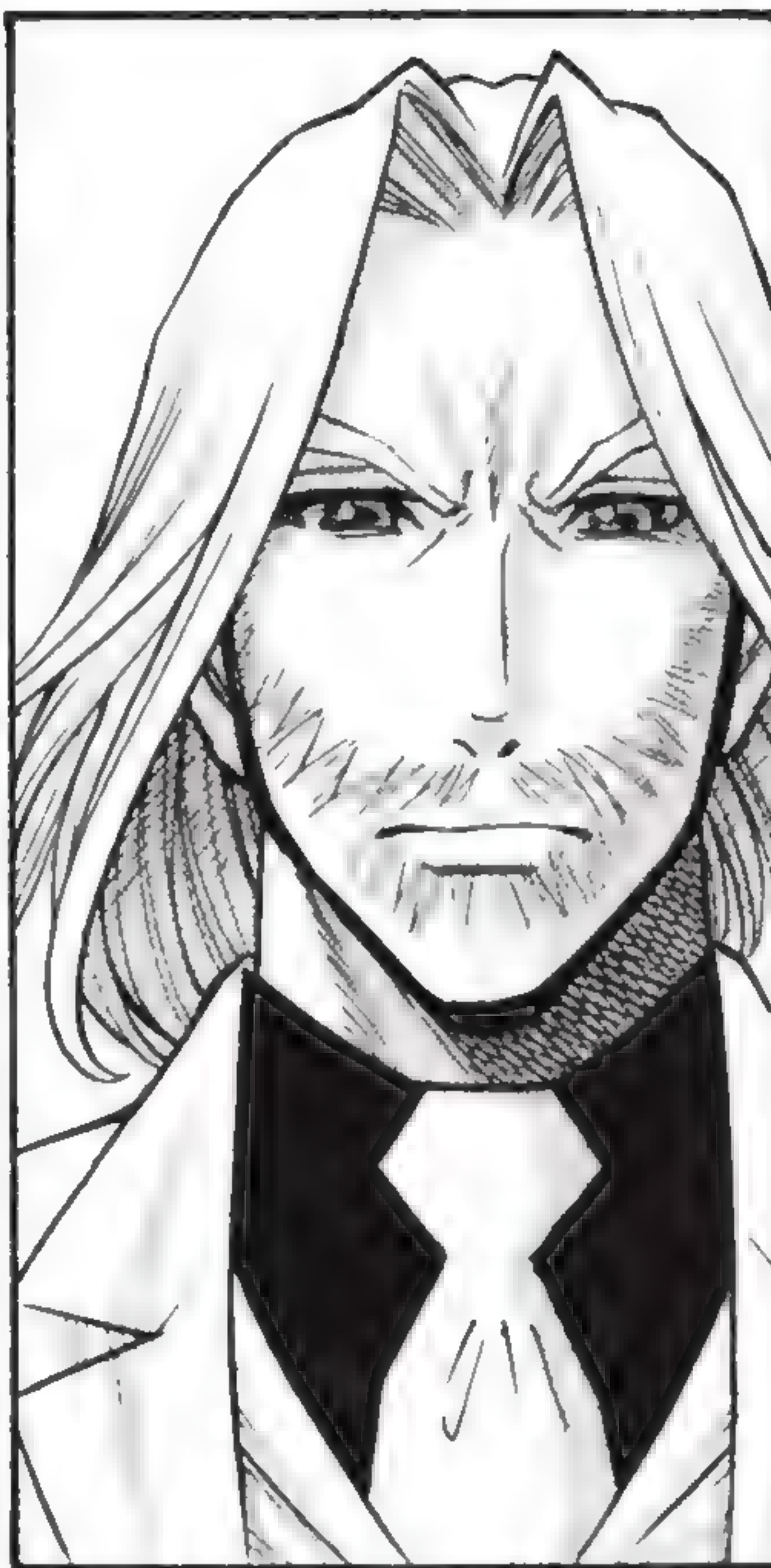
WITHOUT
THAT DUTY,
THE PRESENCE OF
A HIGHLY-TRAINED,
ORGANIZED, AND
INDEPENDENT
MILITARY FORCE OF
THIS SCALE IS
ILLEGAL WITHIN THE
BLIND, ACCORDING
TO OUR TREATY
WITH THE
JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT.

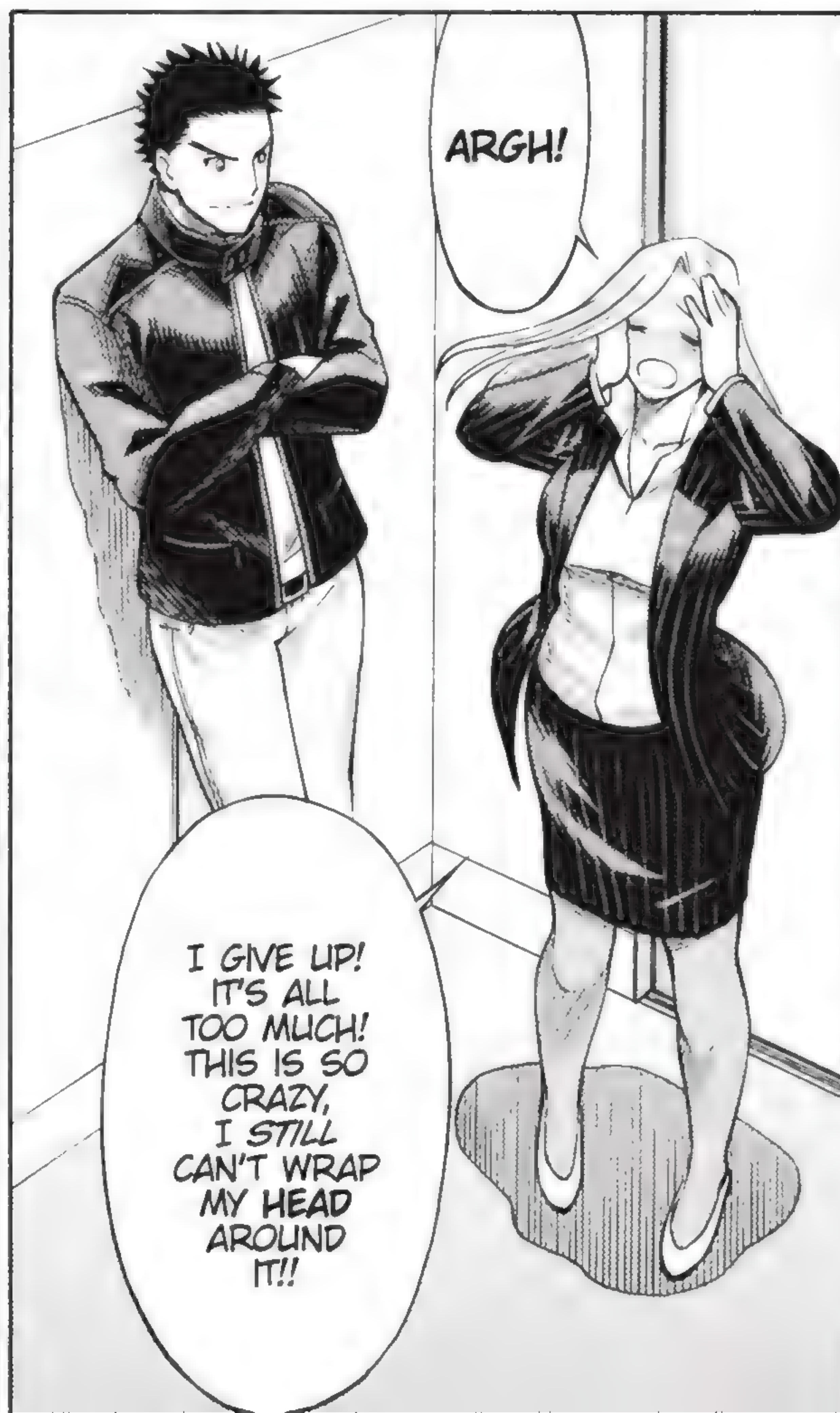
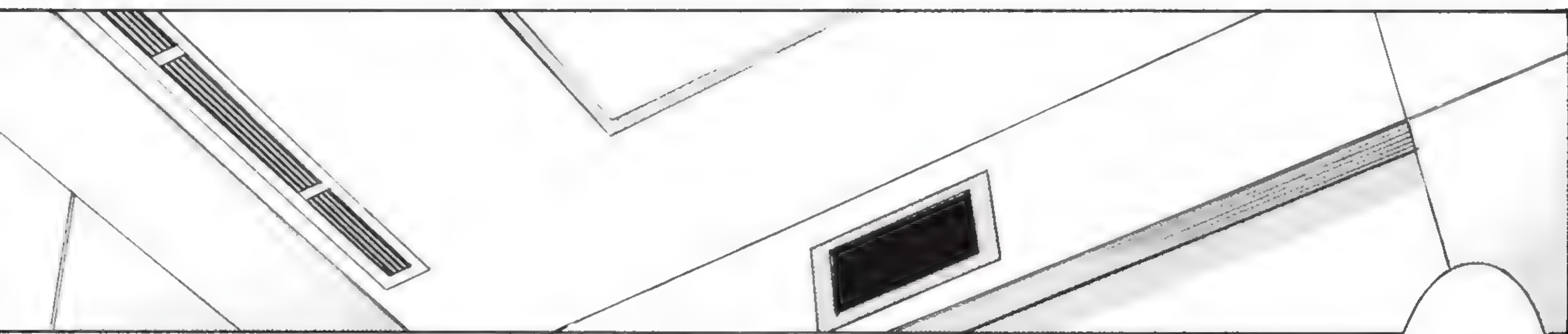


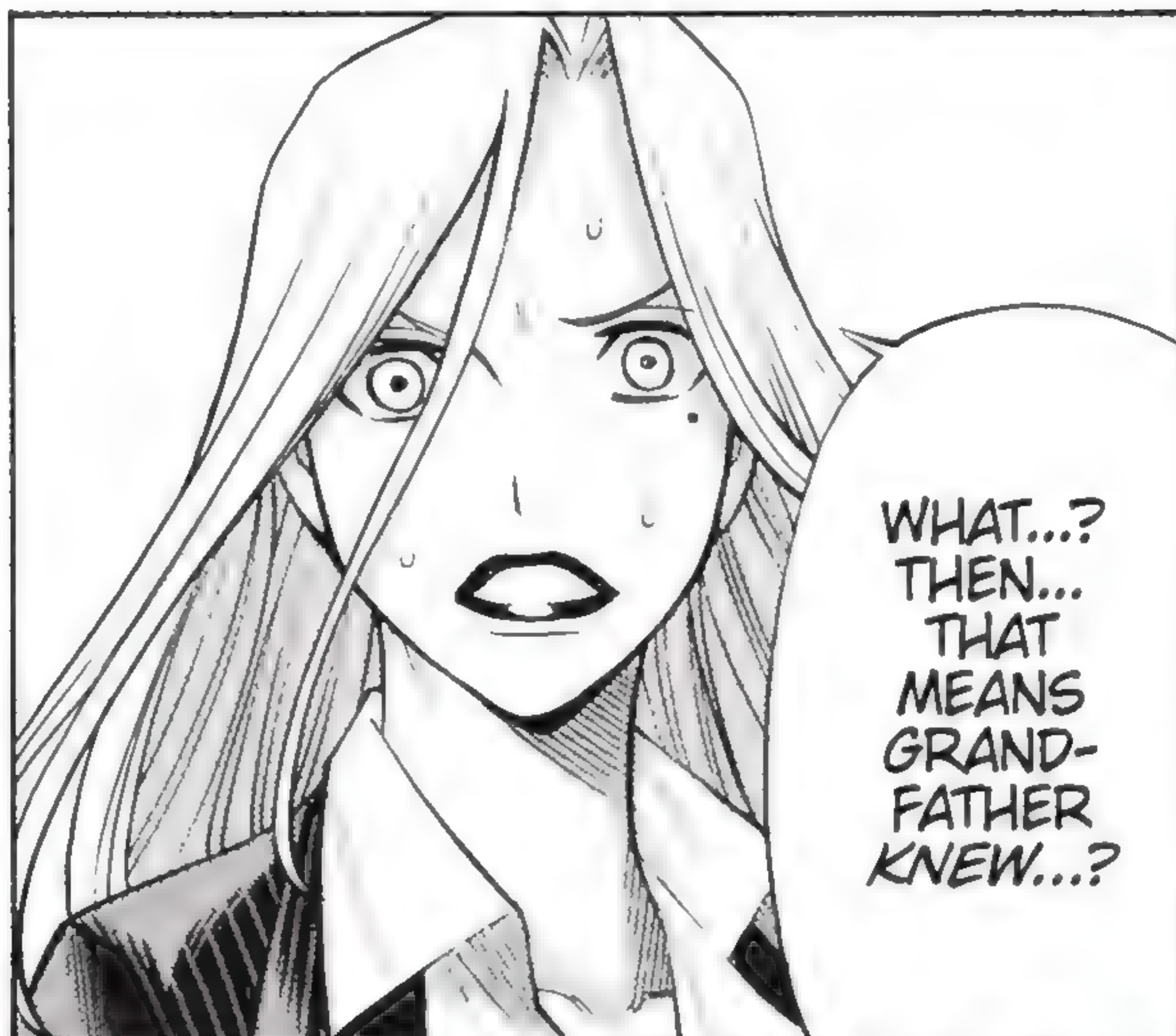
IF
ANY
WILL
HAVE
YOU,
THAT
IS.

SO THAT
IS THAT.
GO BACK
TO YOUR
WOODS AND
SNIFF OUT A
NEW
MASTER.







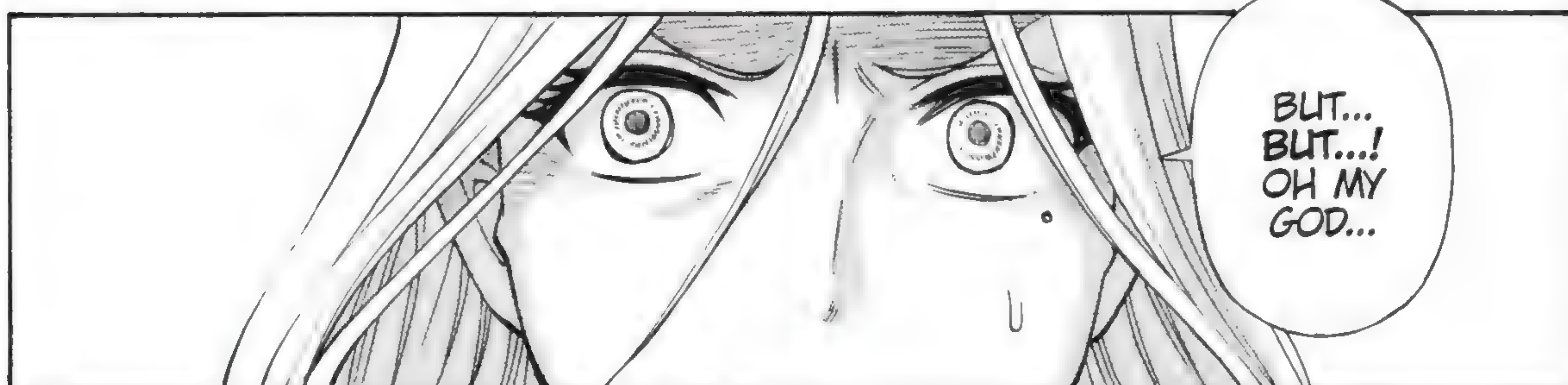
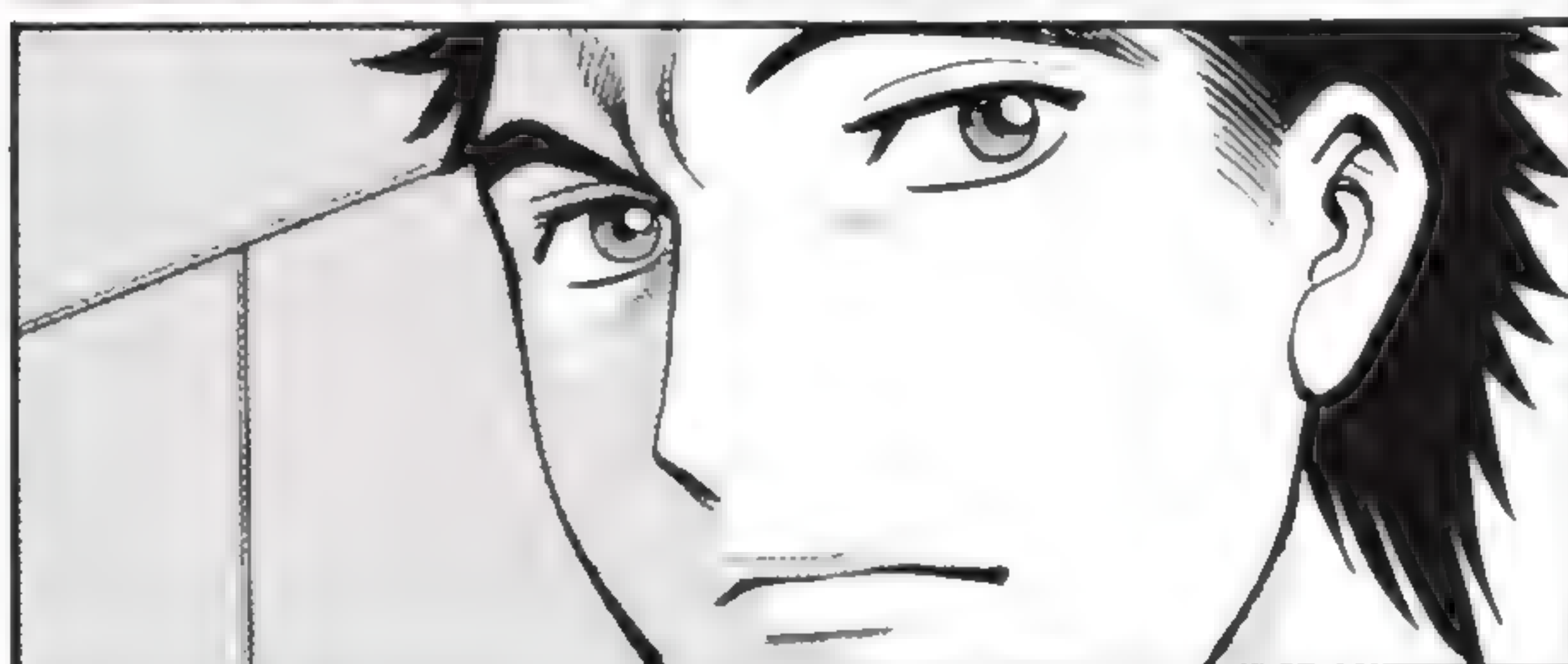


WHAT...?
THEN...
THAT
MEANS
GRAND-
FATHER
KNEW...?



IVANOVIC'S
INVASION OF
JAPANESE
WATERS
GETTING
HUSHED UP.
YOU GETTING
PUT UNDER
WHAT AMOUNTS
TO HOUSE
ARREST
FOR TWELVE
HOURS.

THOSE TWO
THINGS HAD
TO HAPPEN
FOR THIS
SWAP TO GO
OFF AS
QUIETLY AS
IT DID.



BUT...
BUT...!
OH MY
GOD...



WHERE
IS HE?!
LET ME
TALK
TO HIM!

WHOA,
WHOA!
HOLD YOUR
HORSES.
IT'S NOT
THAT AKIRA.
I MEANT
THE VAMPIRE
ONE.

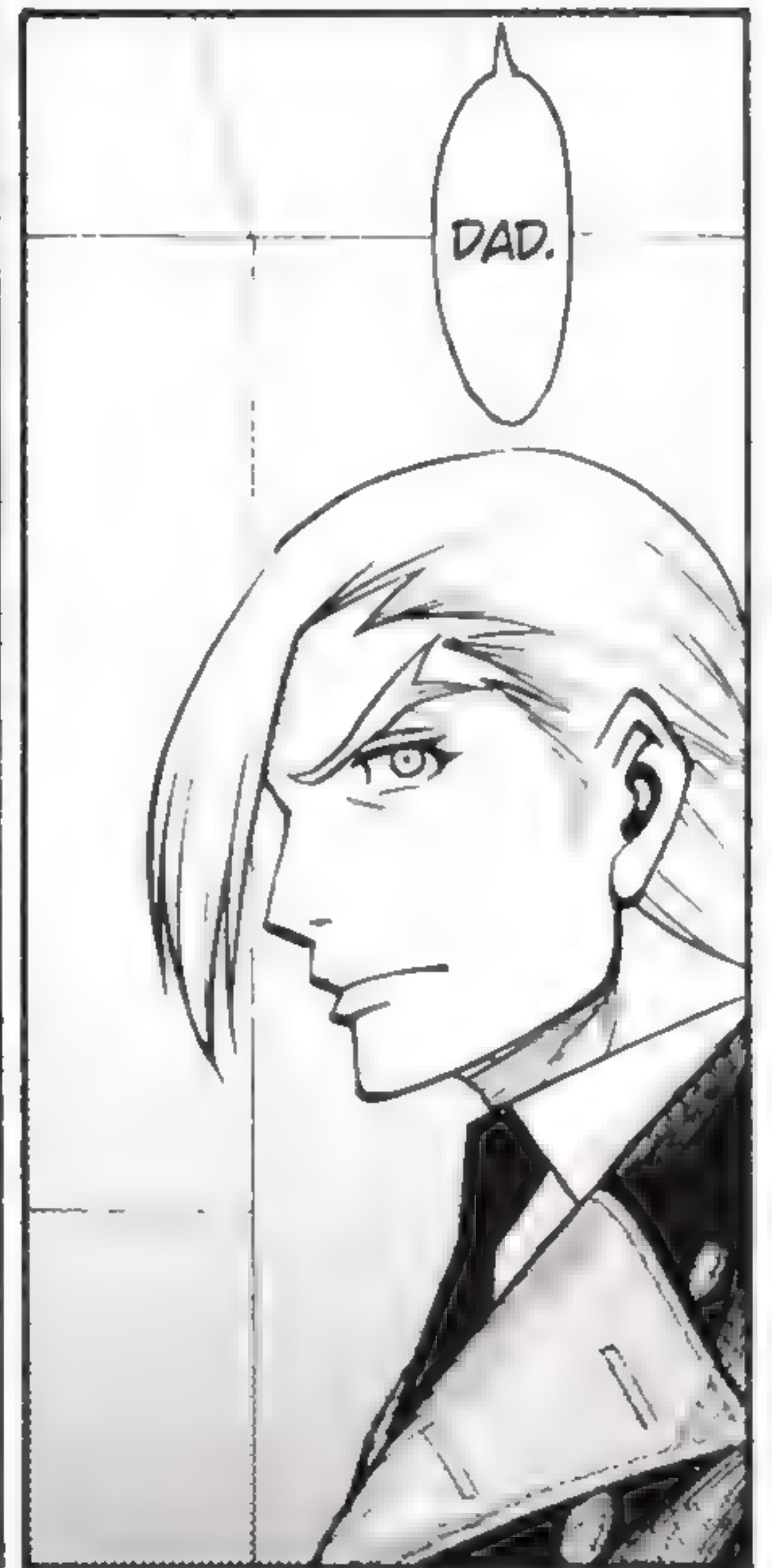
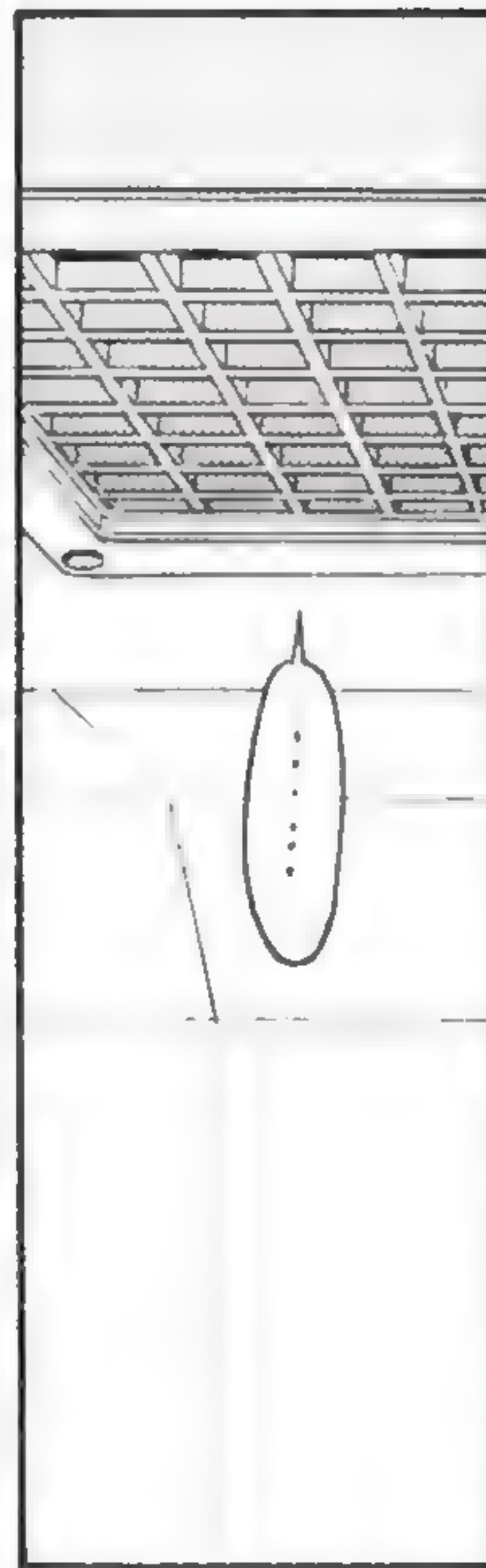


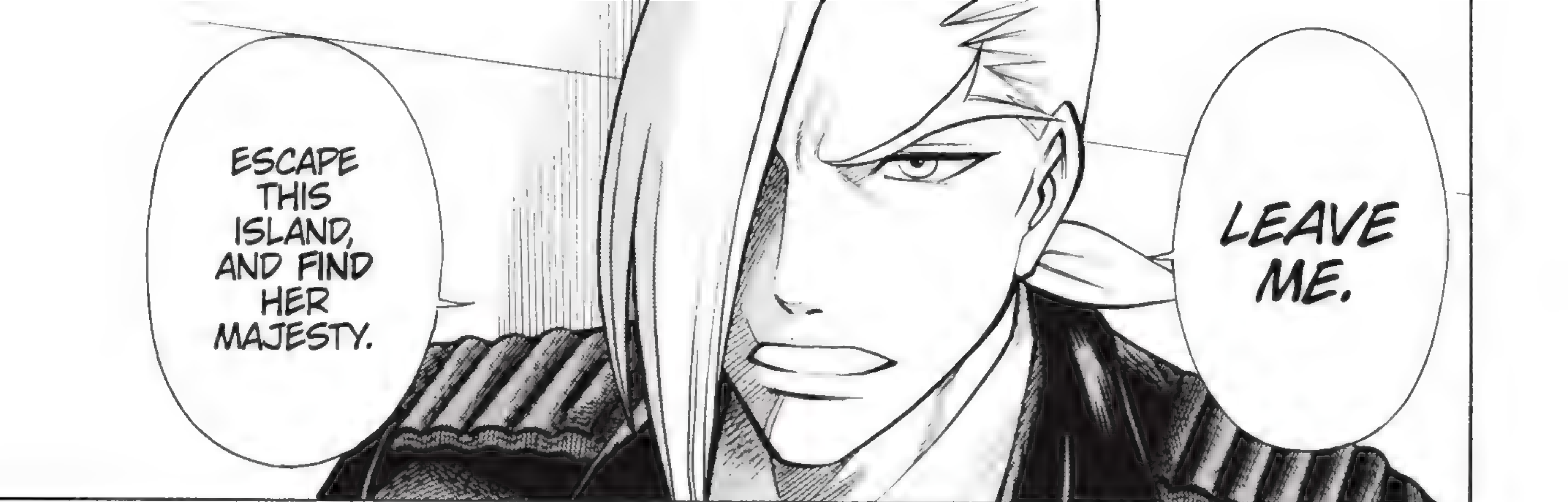
! AH.
IT'S
FROM
AKIRA.



R
I
N
G







ESCAPE
THIS
ISLAND,
AND FIND
HER
MAJESTY.

LEAVE
ME.



HIME-
SAN...



IS SHE
REALLY
THE
TRUE
MINA
TEPES--

IS
WHAT
SHE
SAID
TRUE...?

DAD
...?

AKIRA!!

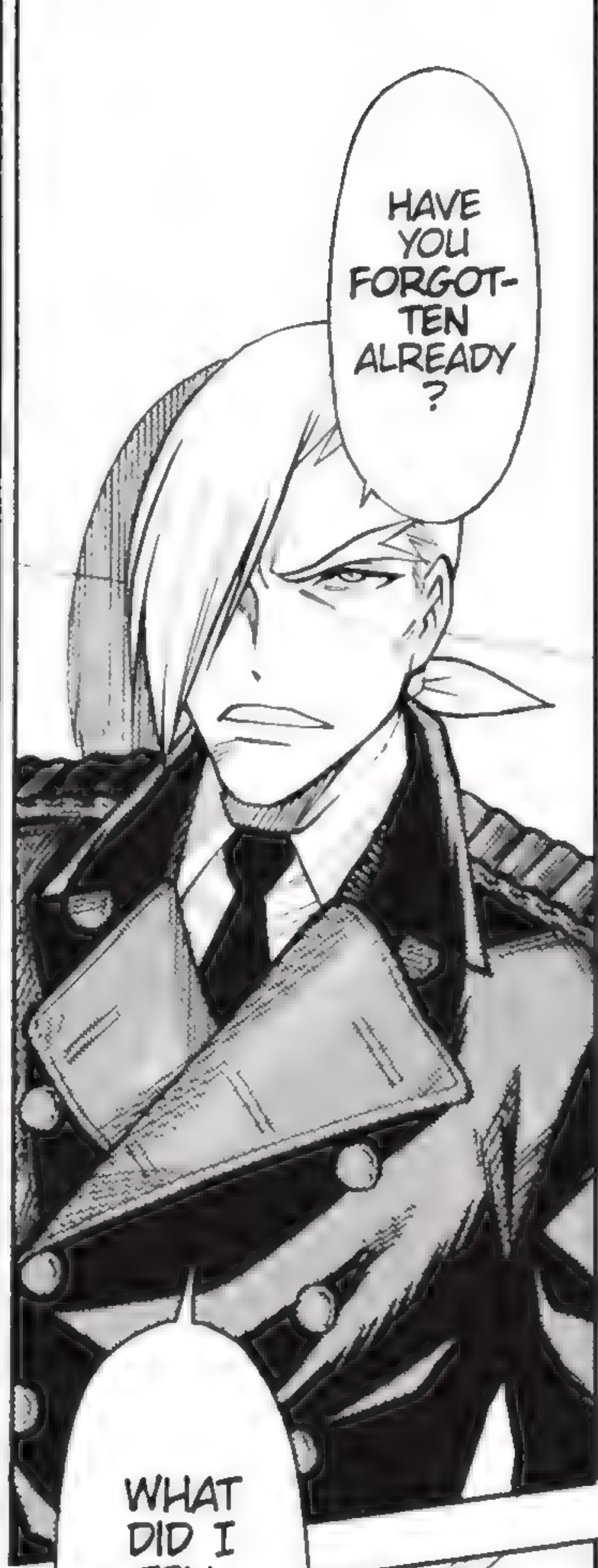


GO!

DO WHAT
MUST
BE
DONE!!



TO
ASK...



HAVE
YOU
FORGOT-
TEN
ALREADY
?



WHAT
DID I
TELL
YOU
BEFORE
?



WSH

MY
HEART

...



BUT,
HOW COULD
HE BE THERE,
SIR?
WE MADE
SURE TO
SEARCH THAT
PARTICULAR
DISTRICT
THOROUGHLY...



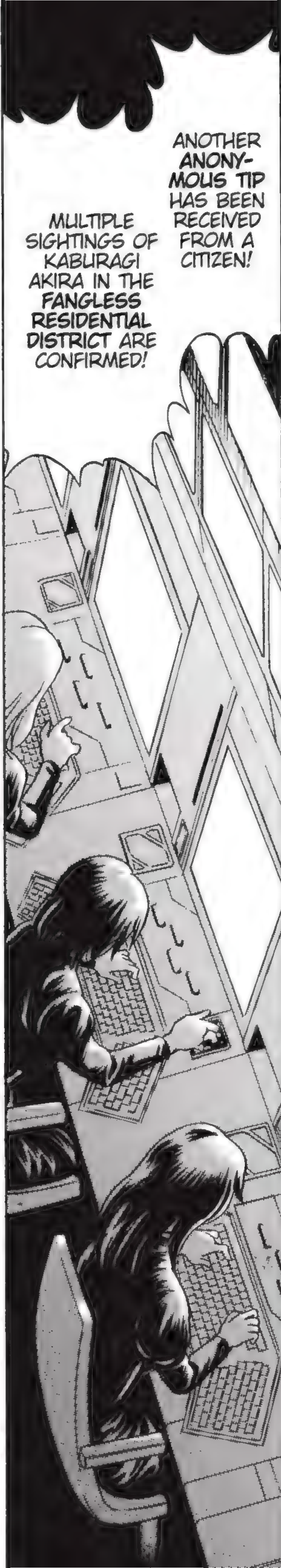
THE VAST
MAJORITY
OF THE
FANGLESS
ARE KNOWN
TO BE
SYMPATHETIC
TO AKIRA'S
PLIGHT.

FEW OF
THEM
WOULD
HESITATE
TO HELP
HIS
ESCAPE.



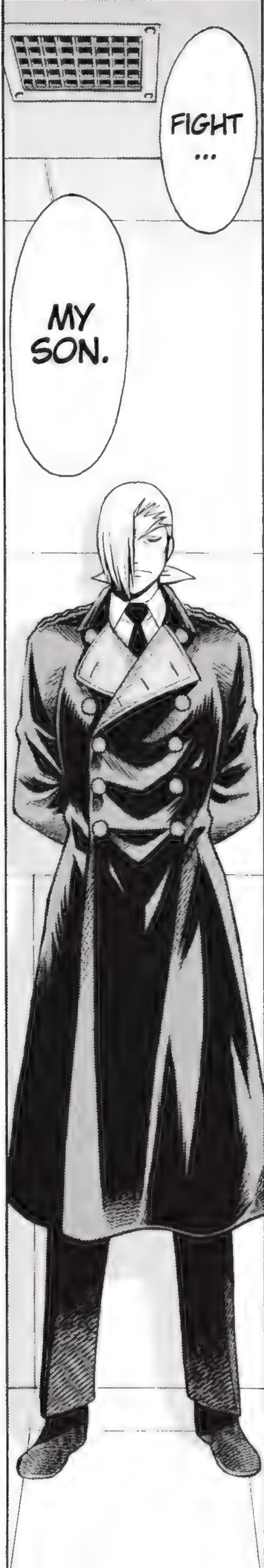
I
WISH
TO
SPEAK
WITH
HIM.

THE
FANGLESS
MUST
HAVE A
REPRE-
SENTA-
TIVE.



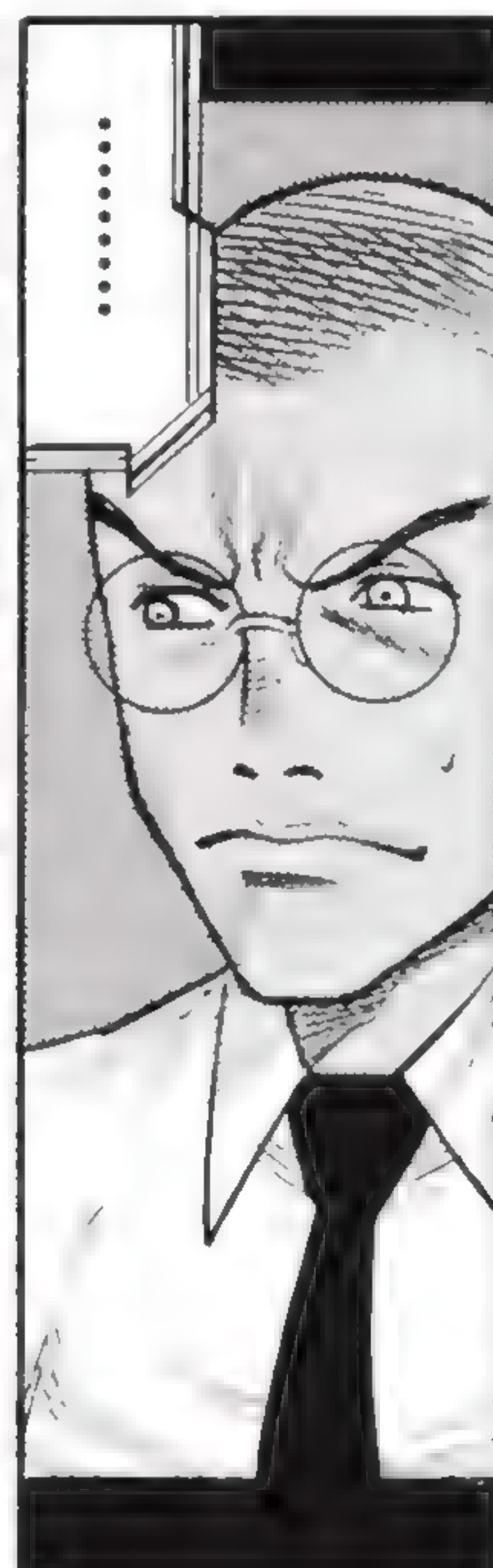
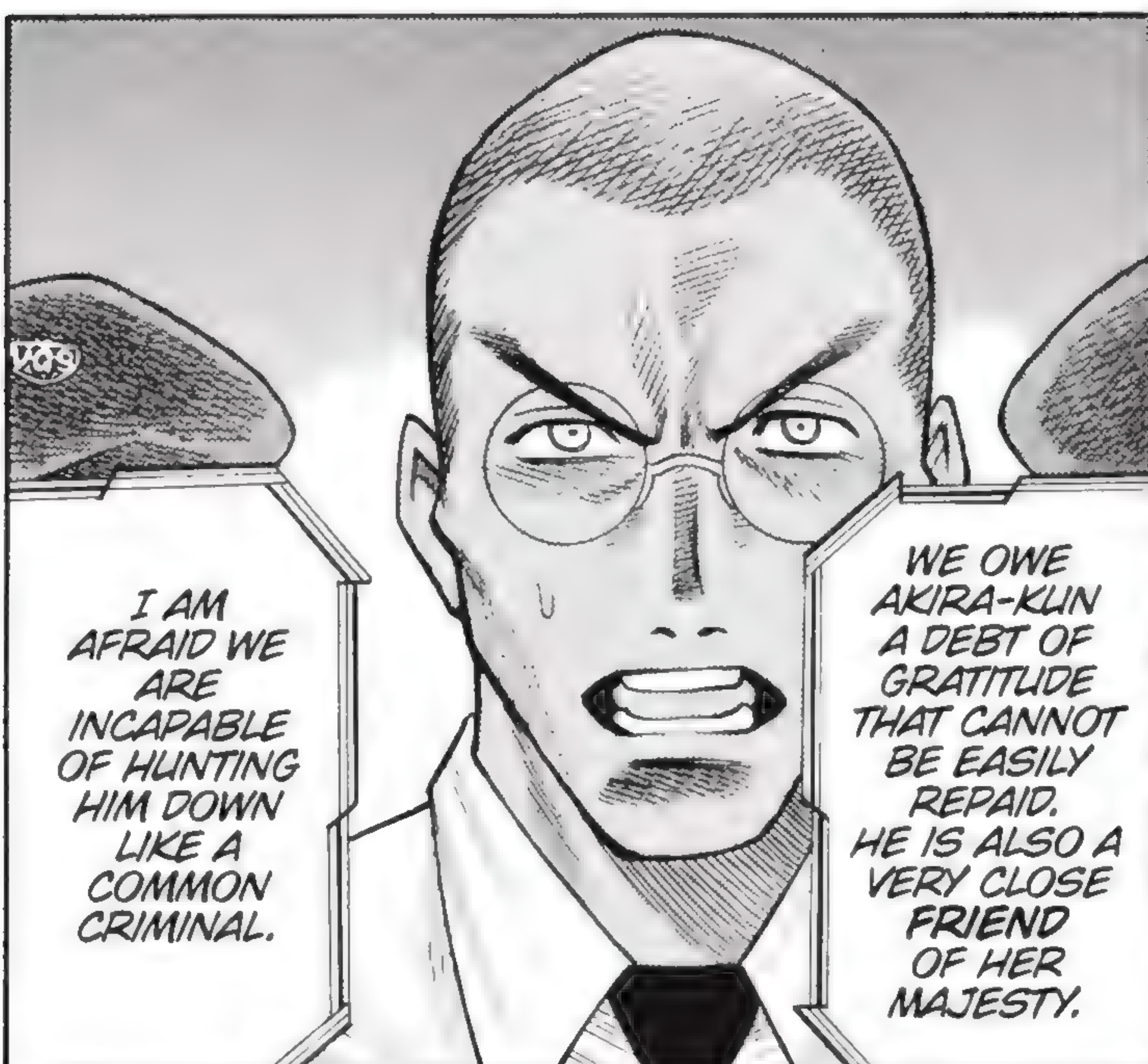
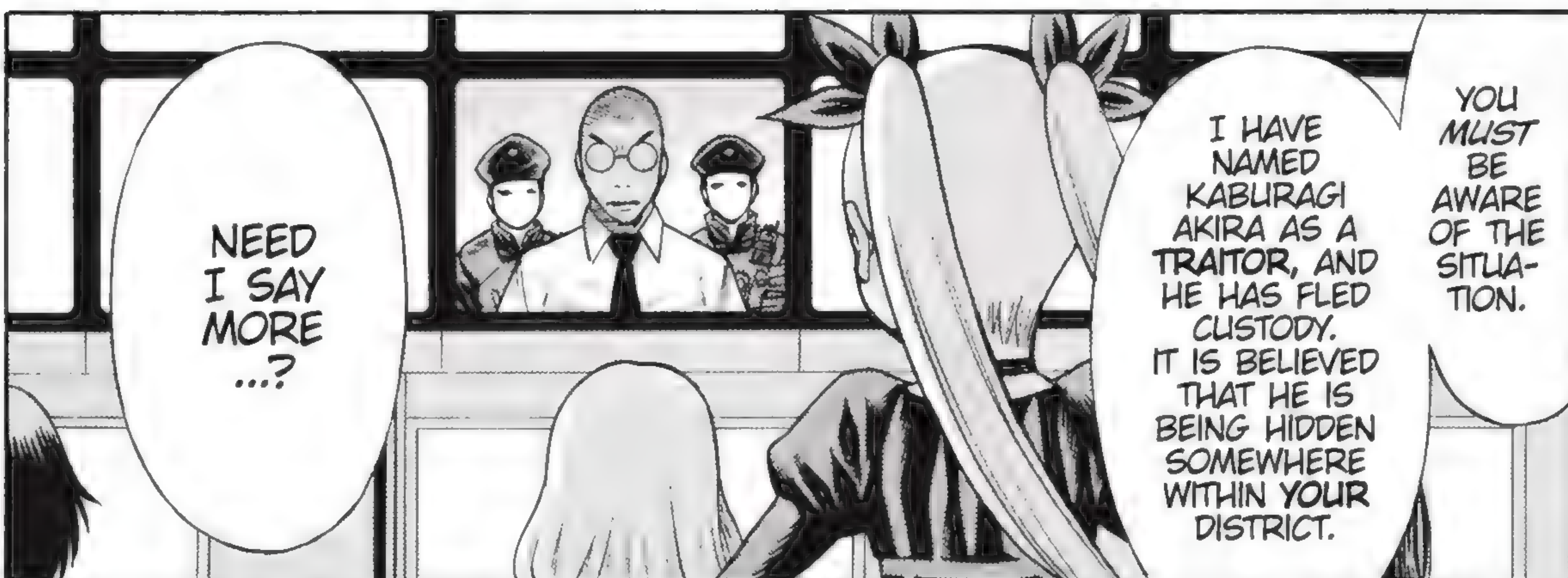
MULTIPLE
SIGHTINGS OF
KABURAGI
AKIRA IN THE
FANGLESS
RESIDENTIAL
DISTRICT ARE
CONFIRMED!

ANOTHER
ANONY-
MOUS TIP
HAS BEEN
RECEIVED
FROM A
CITIZEN!



FIGHT
...

MY
SON.





ONE WORD!

BUT ...



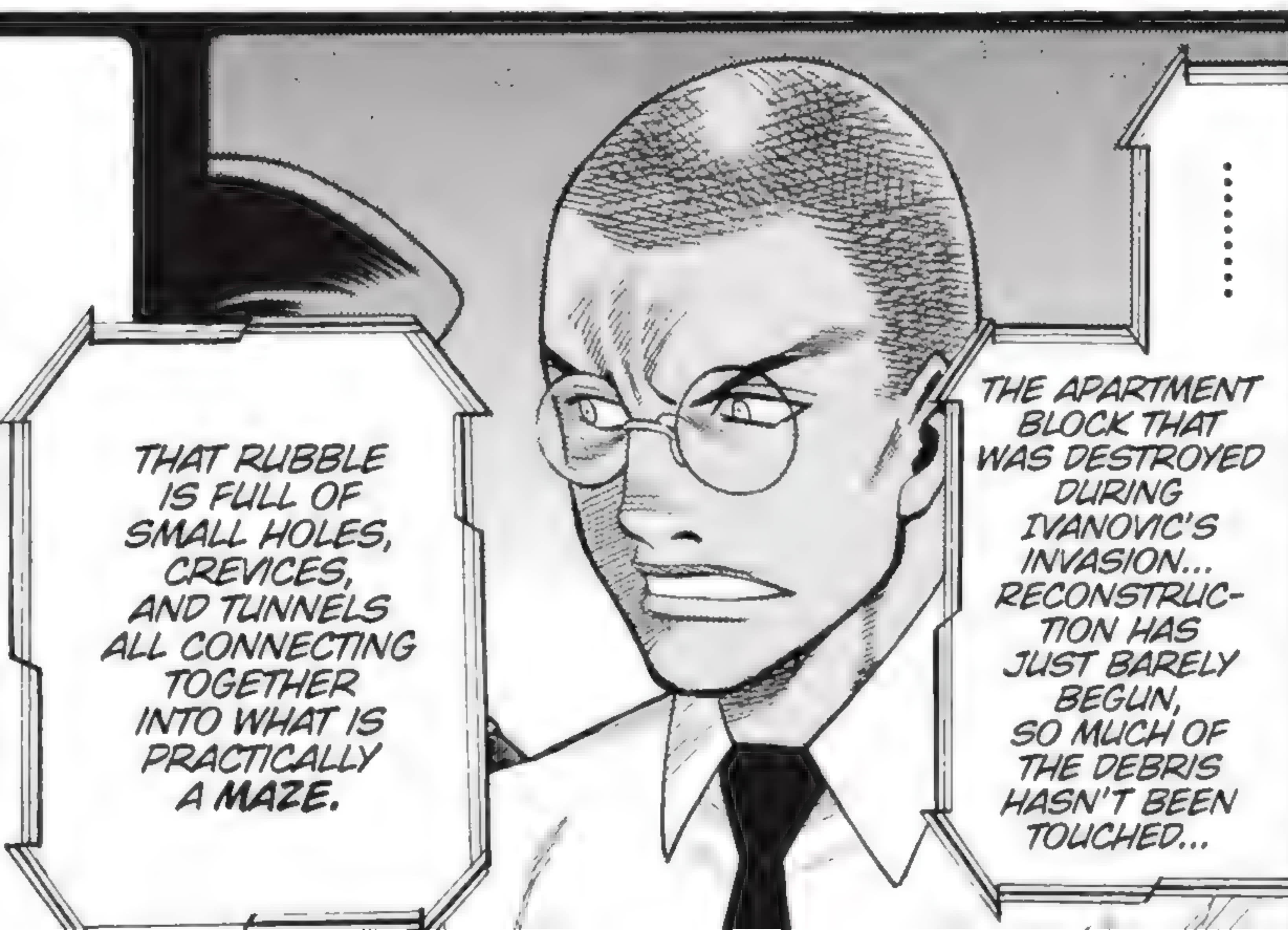
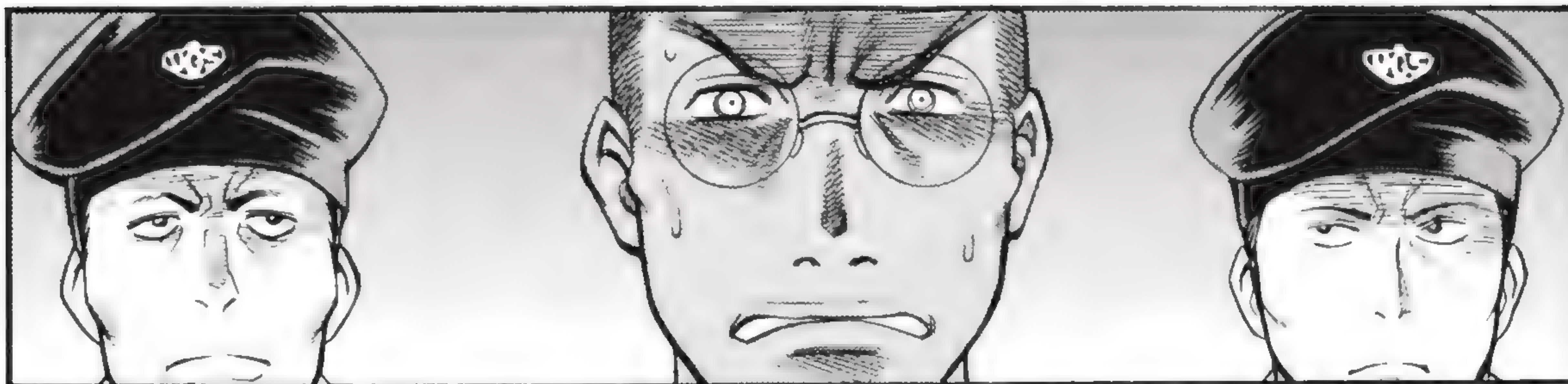
WELL THEN, I THINK YOU MAY NEED TO RETHINK WHERE YOUR LOYALTIES, BY RIGHT, SHOULD LIE.

BY "HER MAJESTY," I ASSUME YOU MEAN THE PRETENDER WHO USURPED MY THRONE AND UNLAWFULLY DECLARED HERSELF QUEEN, DO YOU NOT?



DON'T BELIEVE ME? I COULD MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF YOU, YOU KNOW. WOULD YOU LIKE THAT?

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE WORD FROM ME. ONE ORDER, AND YOU WILL DO ANYTHING I TELL YOU TO, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.



THAT RUBBLE IS FULL OF SMALL HOLES, CREVICES, AND TUNNELS ALL CONNECTING TOGETHER INTO WHAT IS PRACTICALLY A MAZE.

THE APARTMENT BLOCK THAT WAS DESTROYED DURING IVANOVIC'S INVASION... RECONSTRUCTION HAS JUST BARELY BEGUN, SO MUCH OF THE DEBRIS HASN'T BEEN TOUCHED...



WHERE IS HE?

I'LL SAY IT AGAIN.



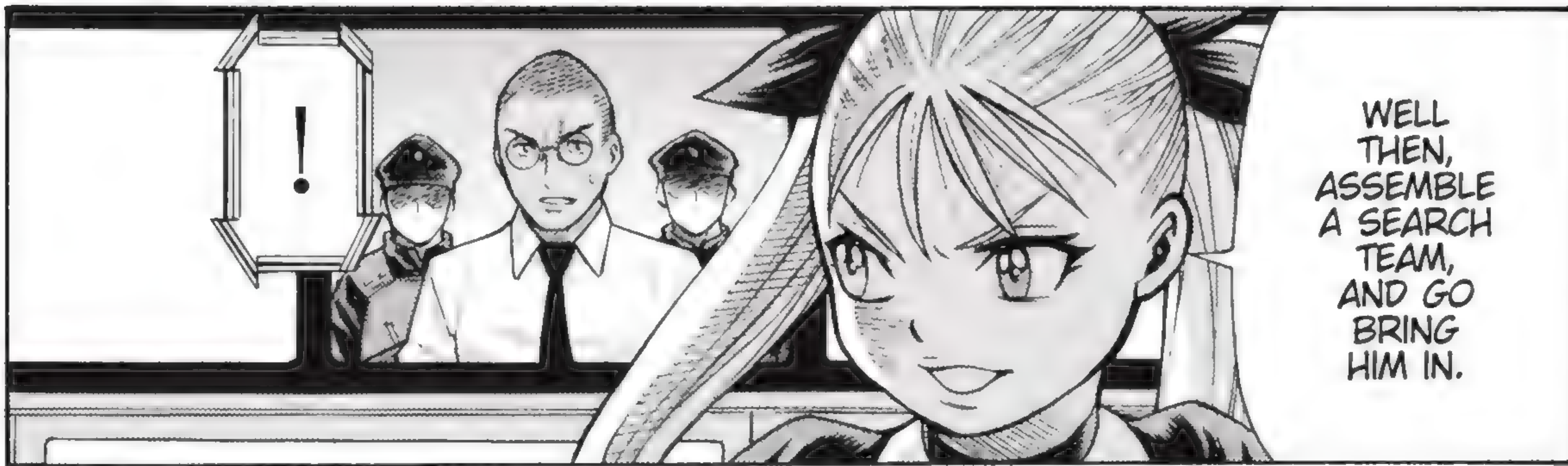
AHA.
I SEE.

NO
WONDER A
NORMAL
SEARCH OF
THE AREA
DID NOT
FIND HIM.



IF HE'S
HIDING
ANYWHERE,
IT'S
PROBABLY
THERE...

THE
CHILDREN
TOOK TO THE
PLACE VERY
QUICKLY,
DUBBING IT
THEIR
"SECRET
HIDEOUT."
HARDLY A DAY
GOES BY
WITHOUT
THEM GOING
TO PLAY
THERE...



WELL
THEN,
ASSEMBLE
A SEARCH
TEAM,
AND GO
BRING
HIM IN.



I DOUBT
YOU WILL
HAVE ANY
TROUBLE
APPRE-
HENDING
HIM AT
ALL.

THIS IS
AKIRA,
AFTER ALL.
HE WON'T
BE ABLE TO
FIGHT BACK
AGAINST
YOU.



SO,
IF YOU
HAVE ANY
FONDNESS
FOR YOUR
CURRENT
LIFESTYLE,
I SUGGEST YOU
START MAKING
YOURSELF
USEFUL TO ME.



OH, AND LET
ME MAKE ONE
THING CLEAR.
I DON'T CARE
ABOUT YOU.
UNLIKE THE
PRETENDER,
I HAVE NO
PARTICULAR
ATTACHMENT
TO THE
FANGLESS
AT ALL.

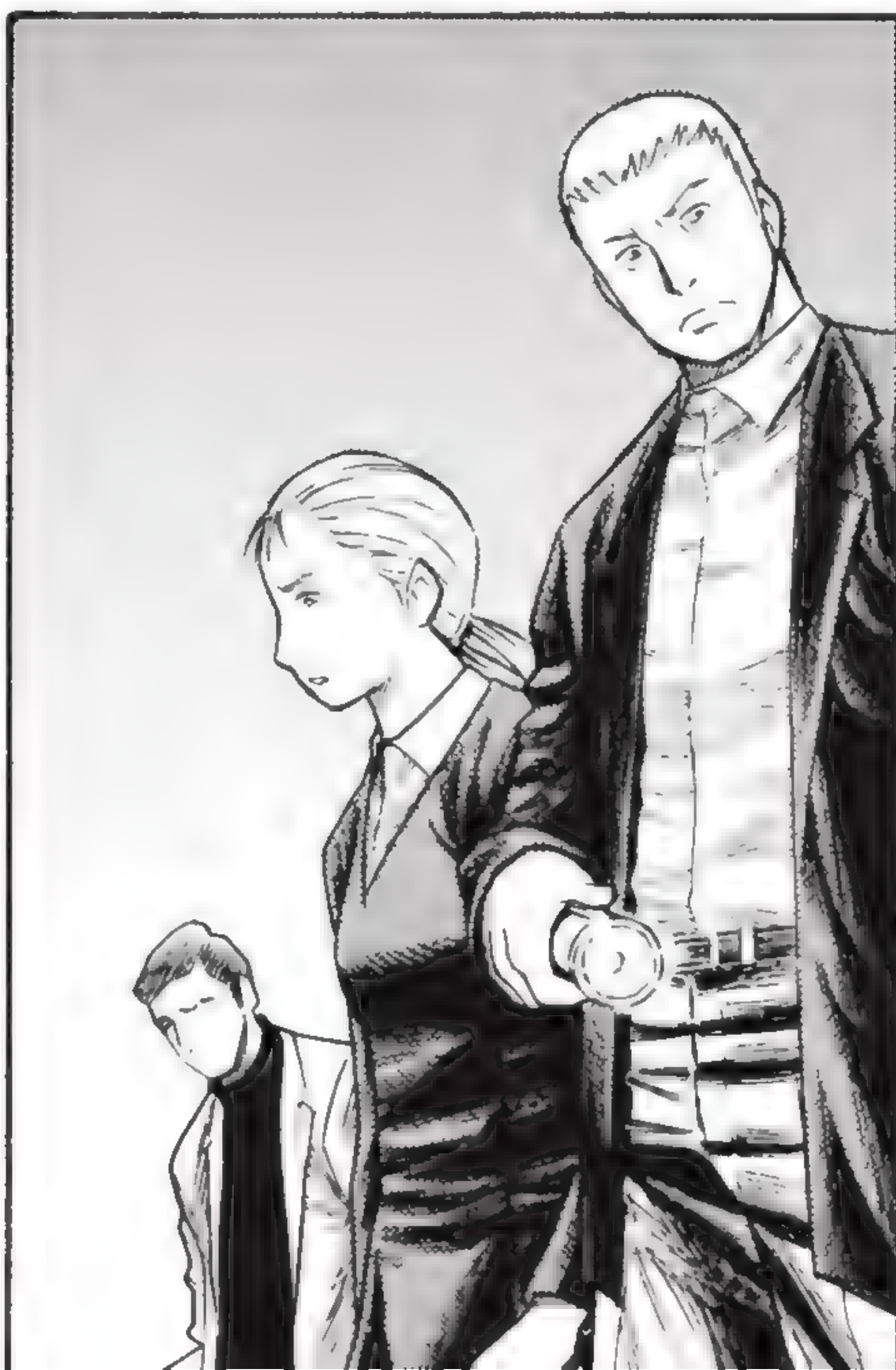
UNDER-
STAND?

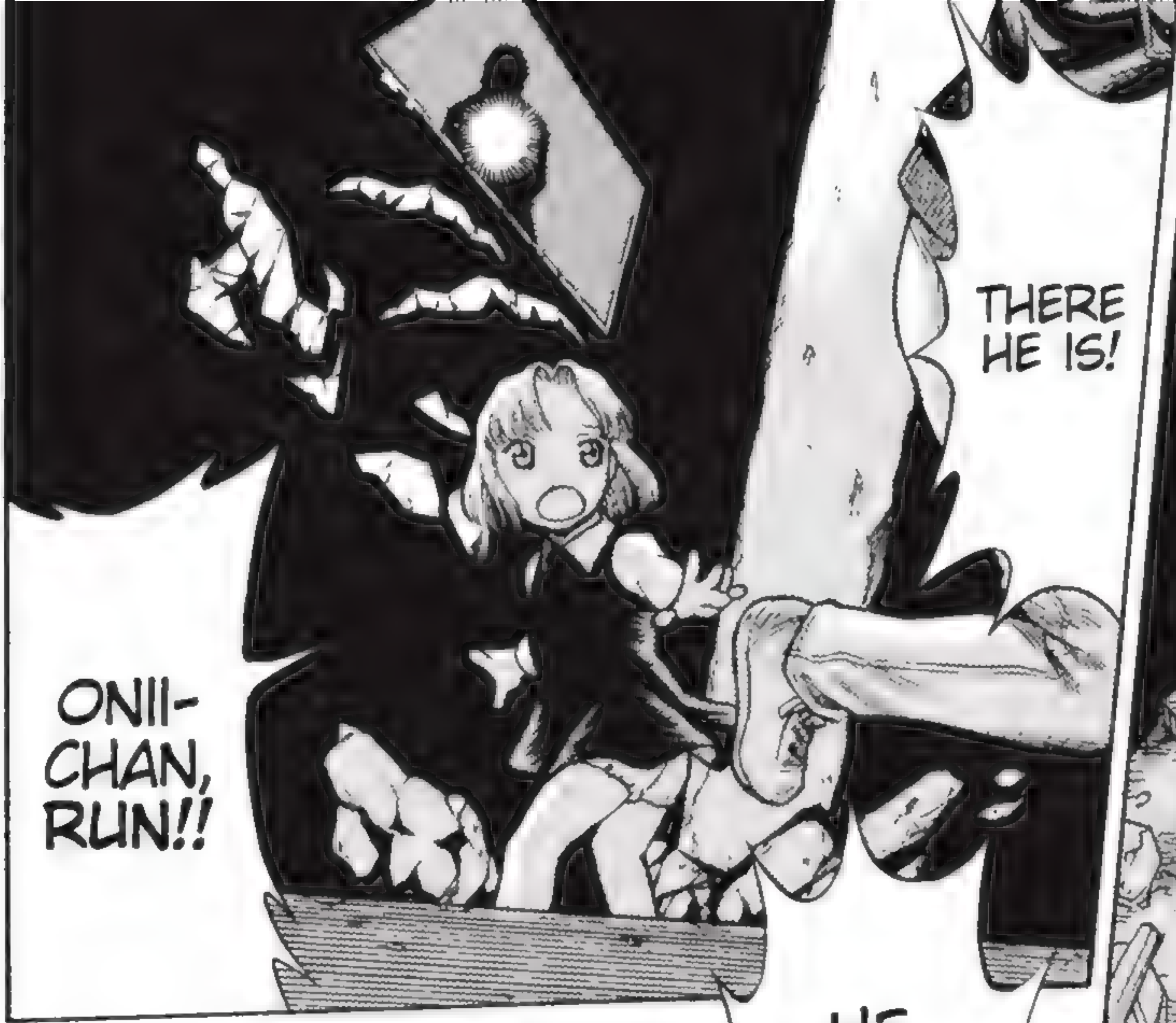


ALL CITIZENS
OF THE BUND!
YOU ARE HEREBY
ORDERED
TO FIND AND
CAPTURE AKIRA!!



THIS IS
A DIRECT
ORDER
FROM
THE
QUEEN,
MINA
TEPES
HERSELF!!



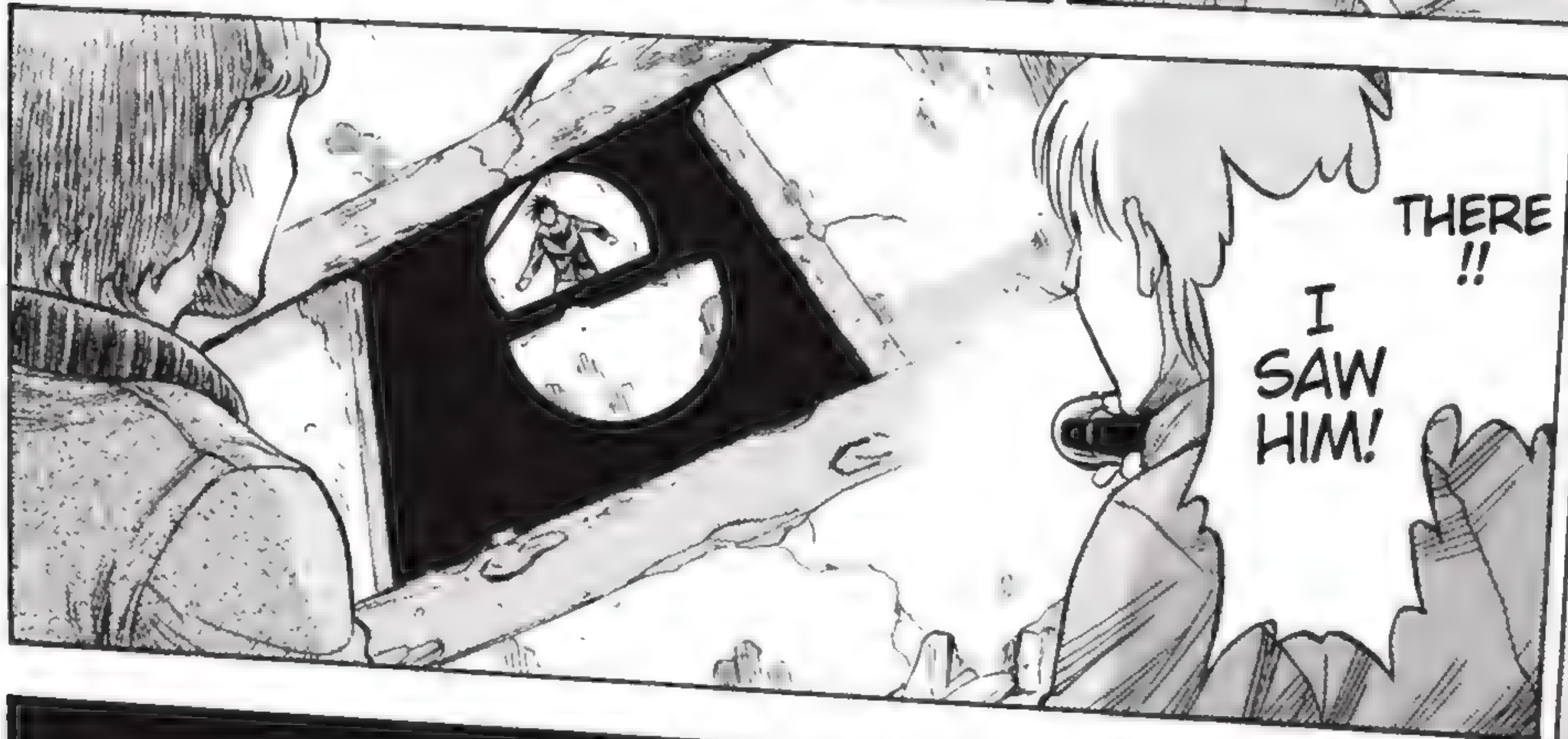


ONII-
CHAN,
RUN!!

THERE
HE IS!

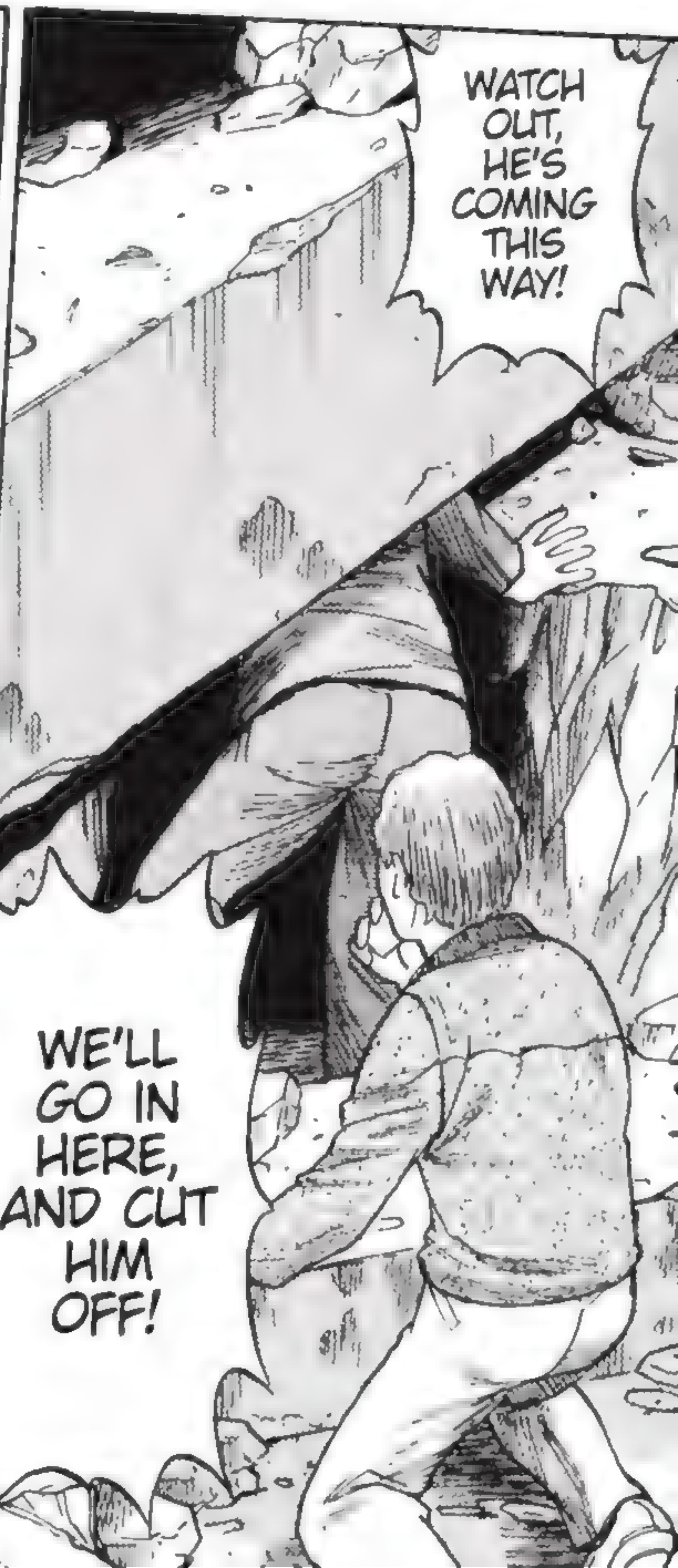


HE
RAN
TO
THE
WEST!



THERE
!!

I
SAW
HIM!



WATCH
OUT,
HE'S
COMING
THIS
WAY!



DAMMIT
!

DOESN'T
THIS
TUNNEL
CONNECT
UP TO
THAT
ONE?!



SHE

WE'LL
GO IN
HERE,
AND CUT
HIM
OFF!



GAH!



KRAK

KRIK

!

KRASH

IF WE TRY
TO PUSH TOO
FAR, THERE
COULD BE
CAVE-INS,
AND PEOPLE
COULD BE
CRUSHED!

RMBL
RMBL
RMBL

SIR, THE
RUBBLE
HERE IS
UNSTABLE!



ASK
THE
CHILD-
REN.

THEY
SHOULD
KNOW
WHERE
AKIRA IS
HEADED.



.....

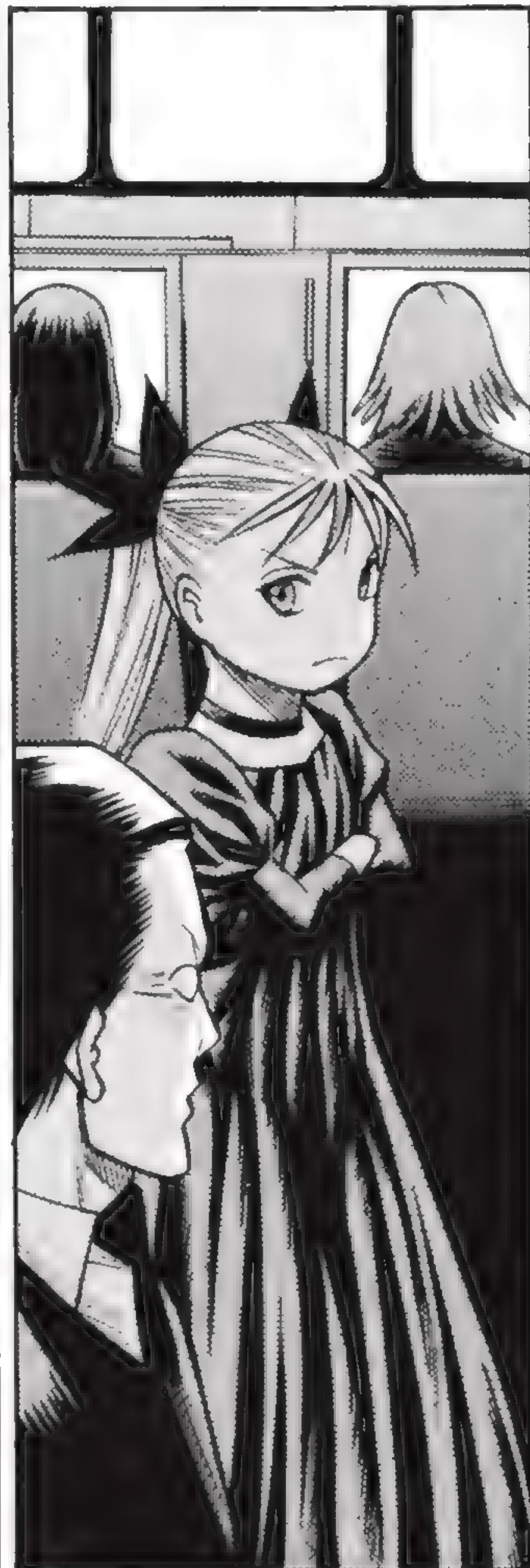


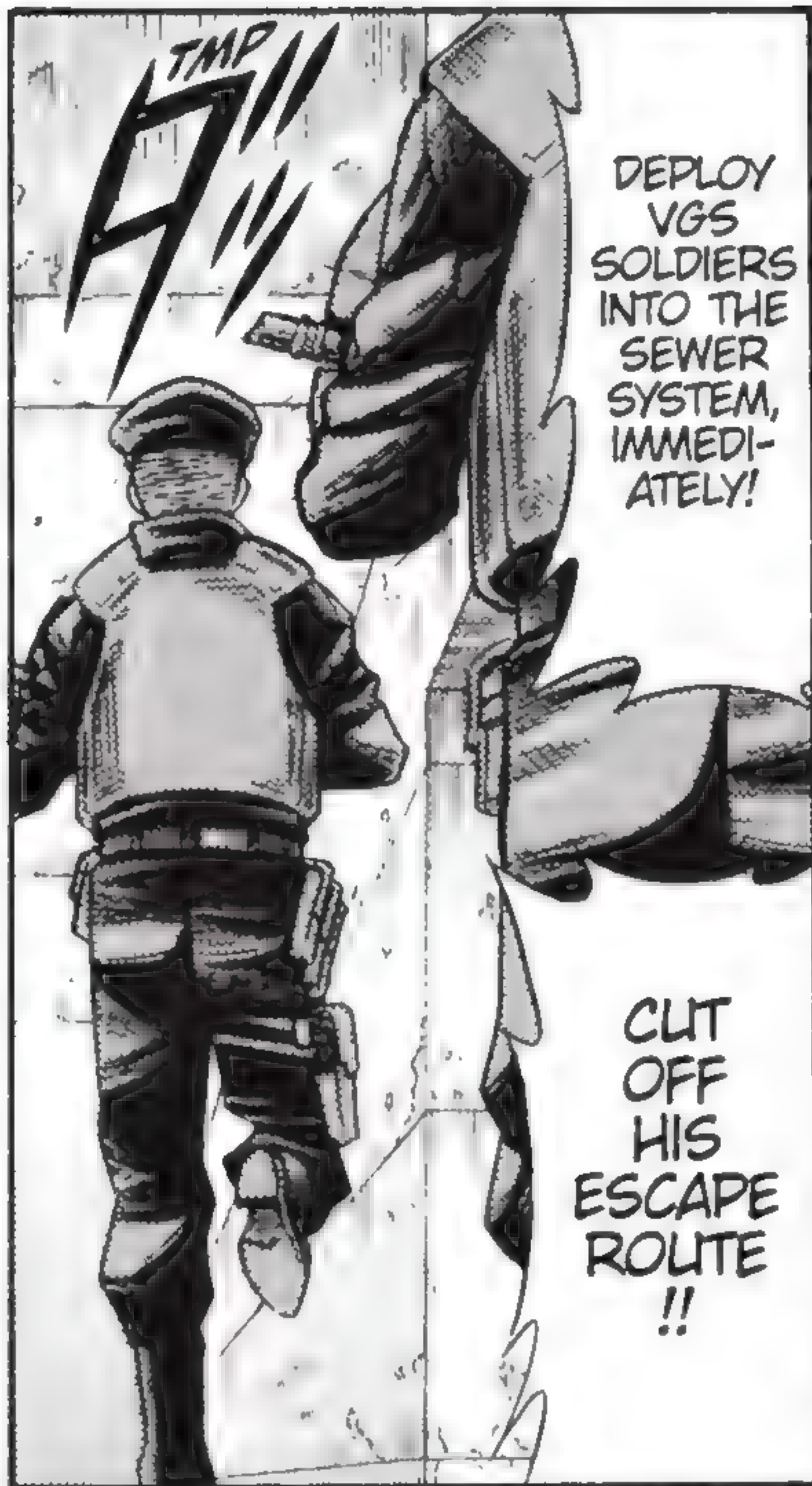
WAIT.



YOU
HAVE
YOUR
ORDERS.

CAP-
TURE
AKIRA
AT ALL
COSTS
!!





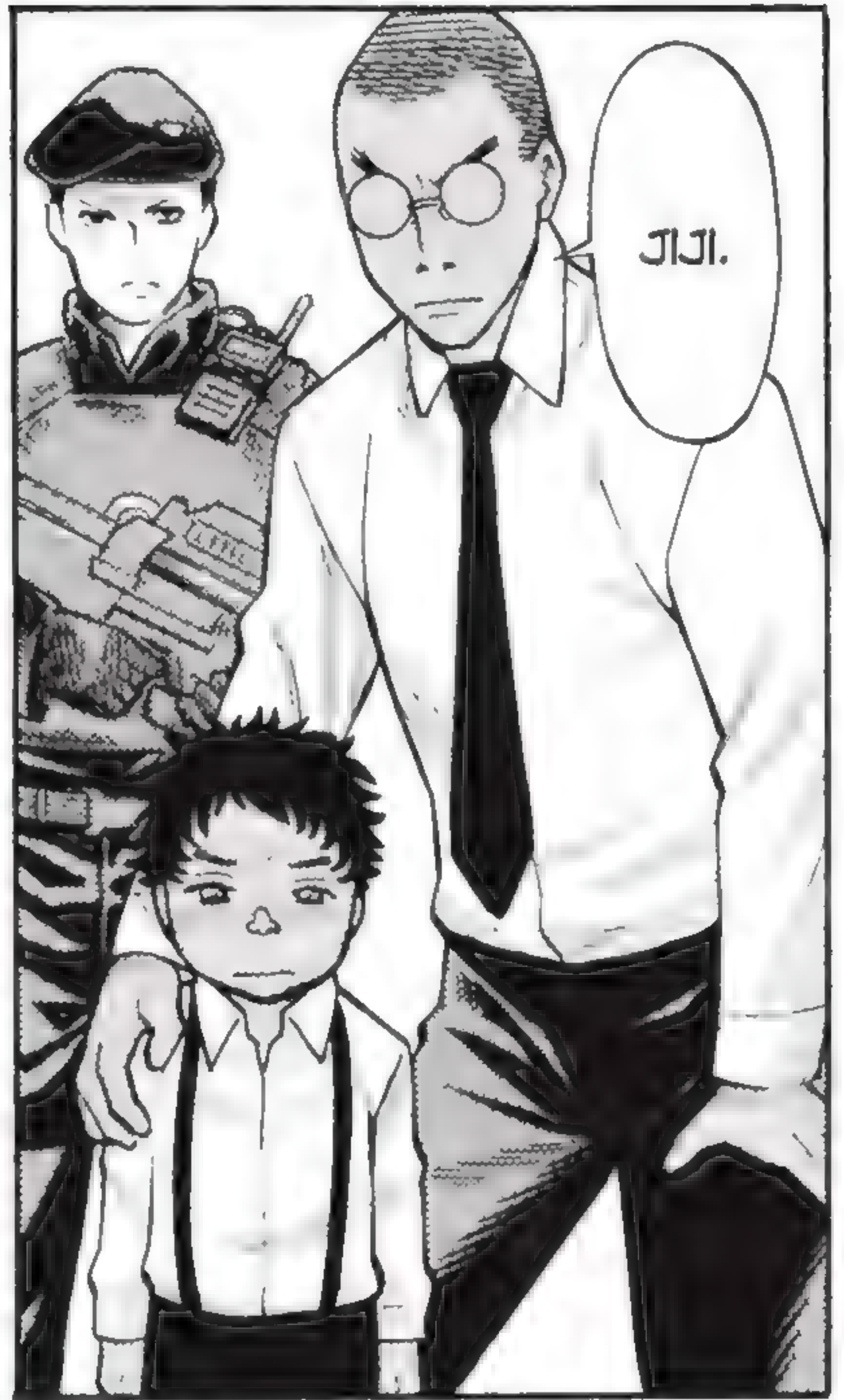
DEPLOY
VGS
SOLDIERS
INTO THE
SEWER
SYSTEM,
IMMEDI-
ATELY!

CUT
OFF
HIS
ESCAPE
ROUTE
!!

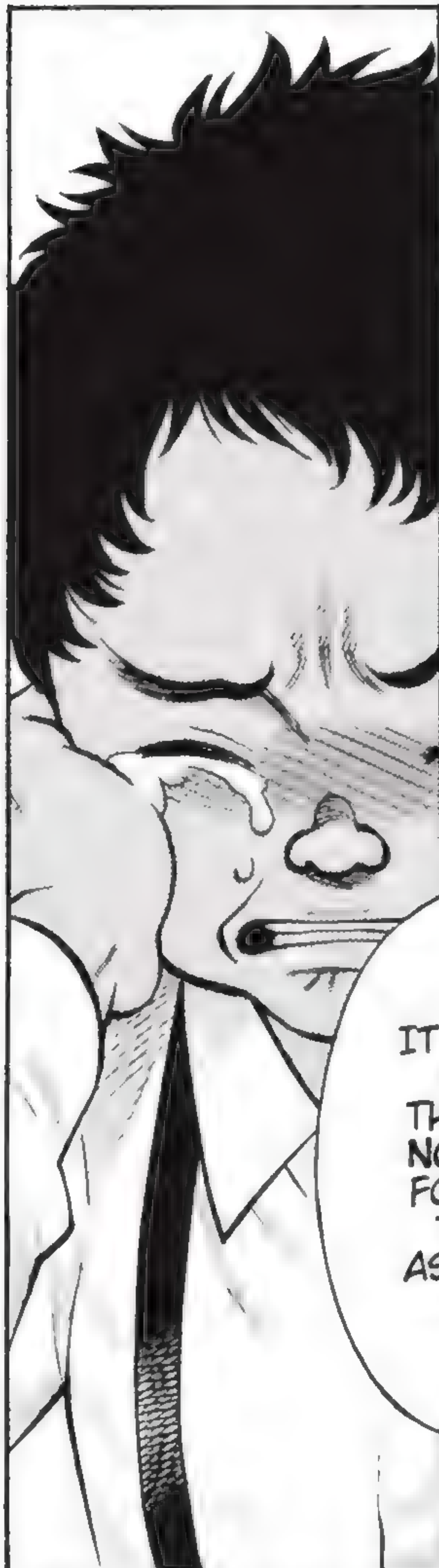


TH-
THERE'S
A RAIN-
WATER
DRAIN
UNDER-
NEATH...

IT GOES
ALL
THROUGH
THE RUBBLE
AND
CONNECTS UP
WITH THE
MAIN SEWER
TUNNELS...



JIJI.



IT IS OUR
FATE.
THERE IS
NOTHING
FOR YOU
TO BE
ASHAMED
OF.

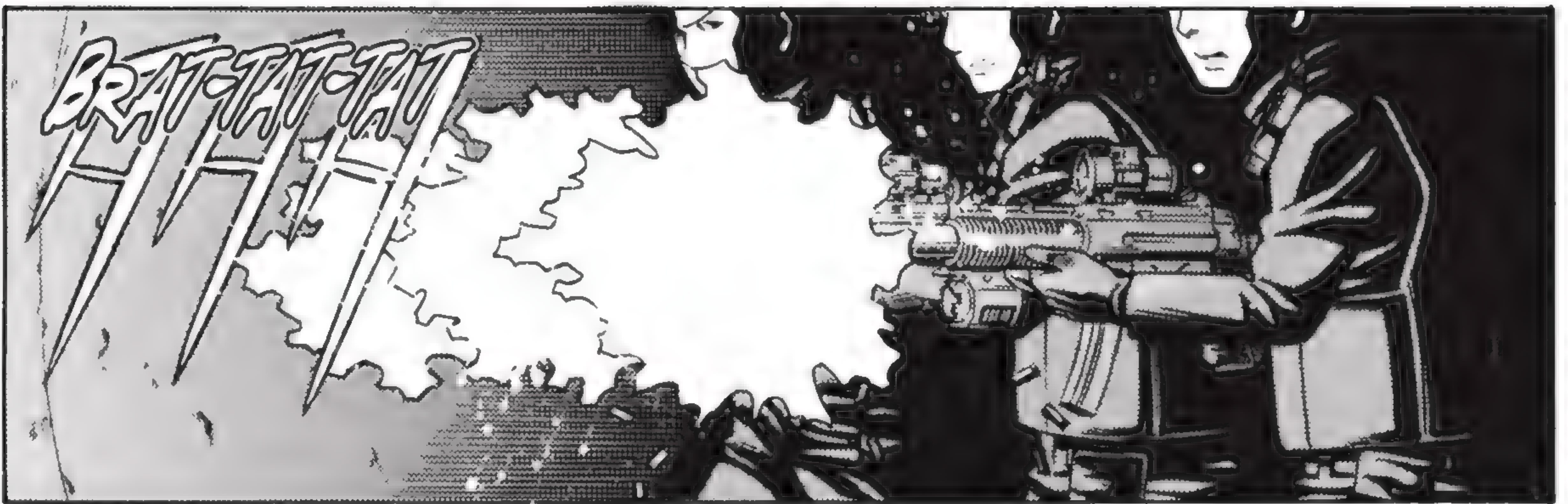
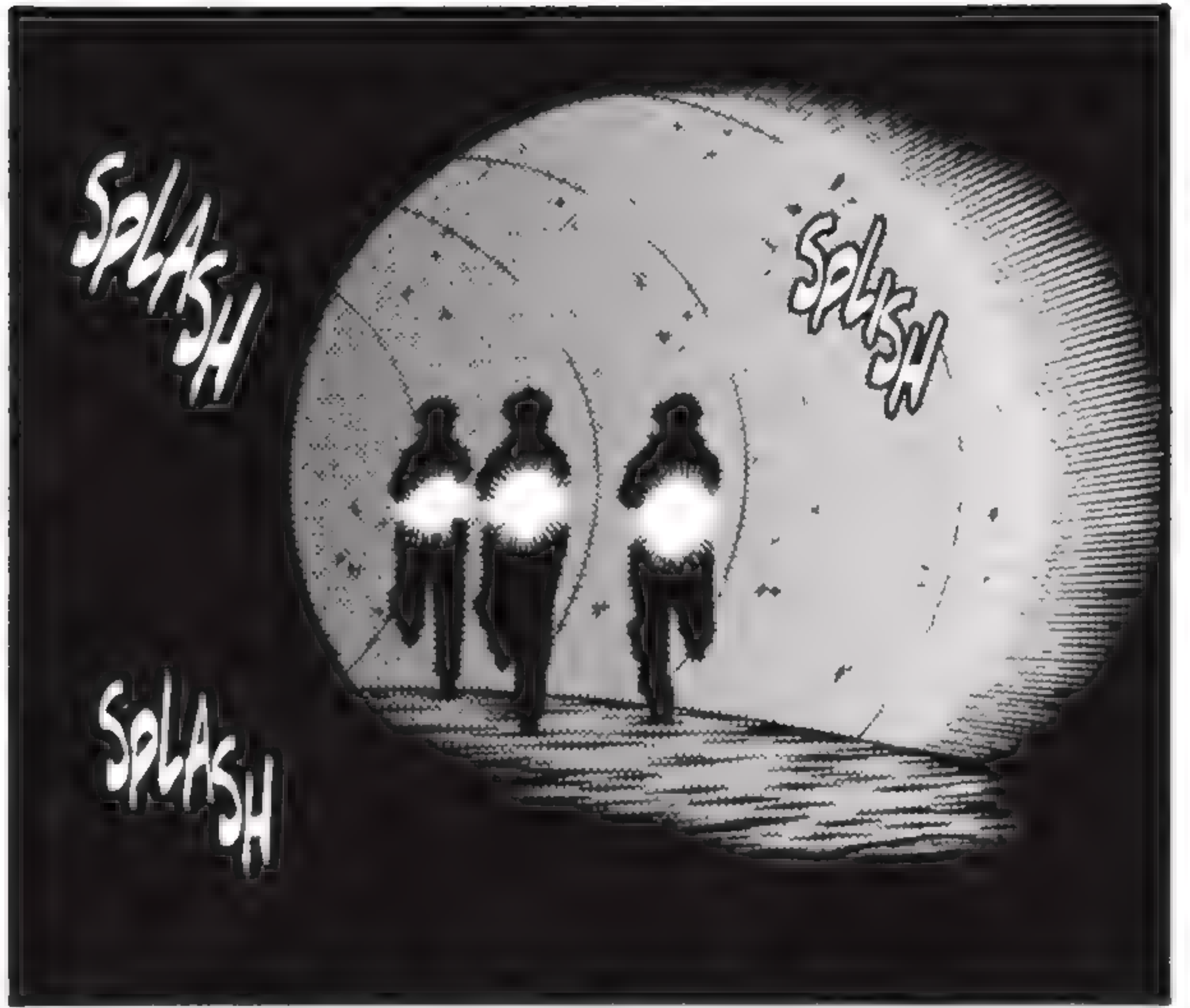


WE ARE
BORN TO
FOLLOW
THE
ORDERS
OF OUR
MASTERS,
CHILD.



ALL
RIGHT
?

JIJI,
I WOULD
LIKE YOU TO
POINT OUT
EVERY
POSSIBLE
ROUTE THAT
HE MAY
TAKE.





WE
DON'T
HAVE
ENOUGH
MEN TO
COVER
THEM
ALL!!

SIR,
THERE
ARE JUST
TOO
MANY
BRANCHES
AND
EXITS!



WHAT IS
TAKING
SO LONG?!
WE KNOW
EVERY
POSSIBLE
ROUTE
HE COULD
TAKE!!

DON'T
YOU
HAVE
HIM
YET?!



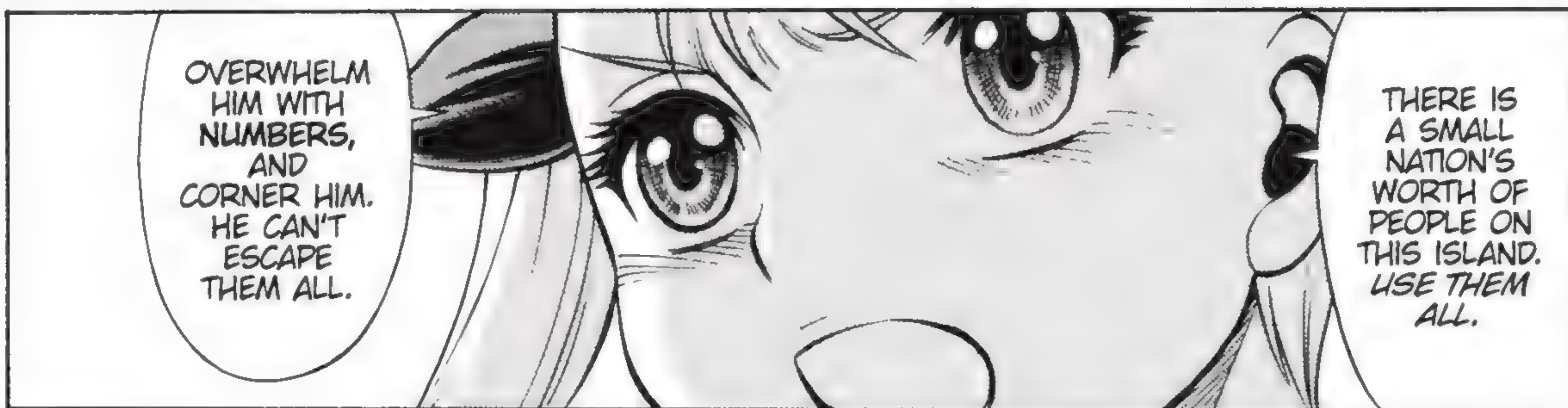
CONSCRIPT
THE CITIZENRY,
AND ORGANIZE
THEM INTO
PATROLS.

SET THEM
TO SEARCH AT
DESIGNATED
POINTS,
CREATING A
NET WE
CAN THEN
CONSTRICT
AROUND HIM.

SEND
WHATEVER
VGS
PERSONNEL
IS LEFT
INTO THE
SEWERS.

THERE ARE
MANY SEWER
TUNNELS UNDER
THE ISLAND, YES.
HOWEVER, THERE
ARE ONLY A FEW
WAYS OFF OF IT.
CONCENTRATE
SECURITY ON THE
UNDERGROUND
TUNNEL TO THE
MAINLAND AND
ALL BOAT DOCKS,
BOTH PASSENGER
AND CARGO.

CALM
DOWN.
THERE
IS NO
NEED
TO RUSH.



OVERWHELM
HIM WITH
NUMBERS,
AND
CORNER HIM.
HE CAN'T
ESCAPE
THEM ALL.

THERE IS
A SMALL
NATION'S
WORTH OF
PEOPLE ON
THIS ISLAND.
USE THEM
ALL.

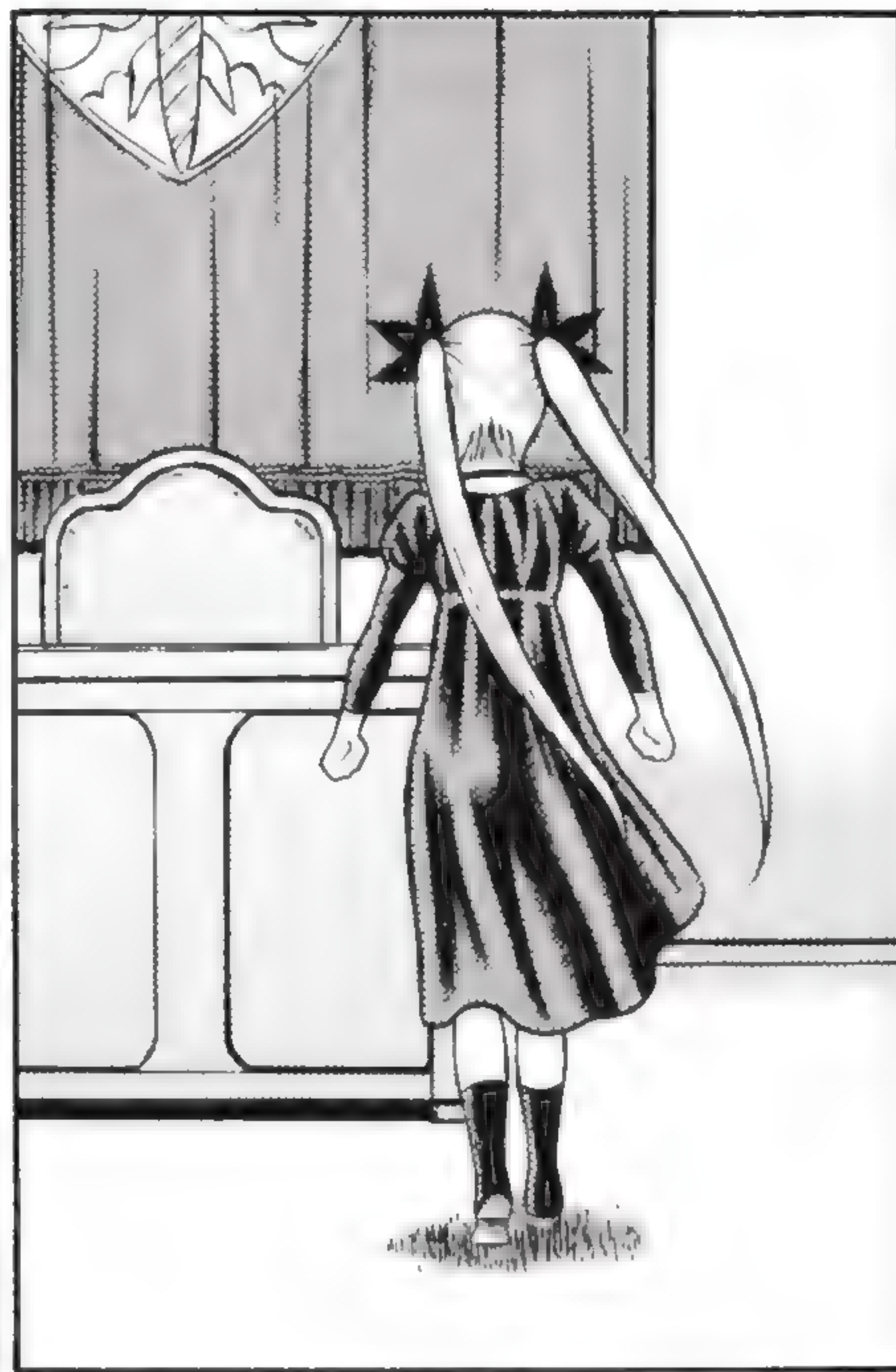


GOOD.
I LEAVE
IT IN
YOUR
HANDS.

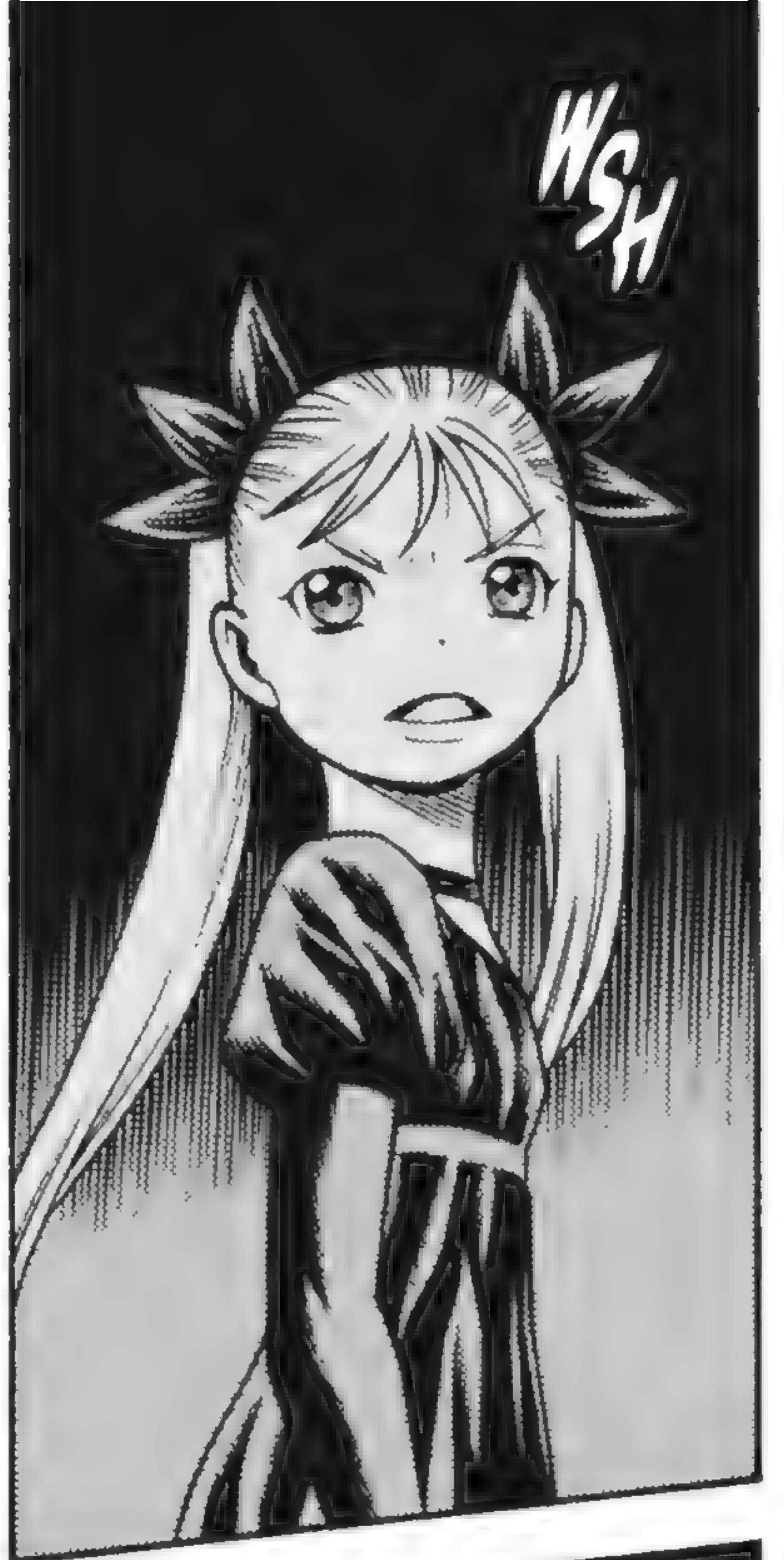
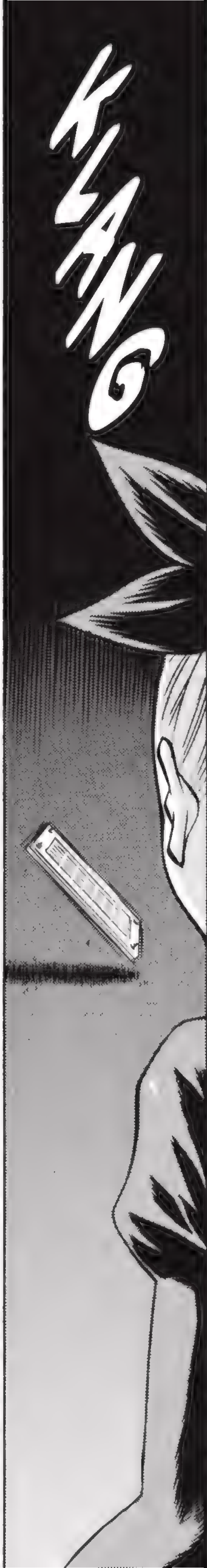
I AM
GOING
TO REST
FOR A
MOMENT.



YOUR
MAJESTY,
I SHALL
GO OUT
AND
OVERSEE
THE
SEARCH
PERSON-
ALLY.









EASY.
I HID
OUT
HERE
THE
WHOLE
TIME.



YOU
...?

HOW
?!



THEN
WHO DID
THEY
JUST...?!



DON'T
YOU
THINK
YOU'VE
GOT THE
WRONG
GUY?



HEY,
HEY!

HOLD
ON A
SEC!



"FIND
AND
CAPTURE
AKIRA."
THAT'S
ALL YOU
SAID.



SO
THEY DID
JUST
THAT.
THEY
FOUND
AN
AKIRA.



HOW
?!

THAT'S
IMPOS-
SIBLE!!

ARE YOU
SAYING
THE
FANGLESS
DECEIVED
ME?!



OH,
DON'T
WORRY.
THEY
CAN'T GO
AGAINST
YOUR
ORDERS.

THEY DID
EXACTLY
WHAT
YOU TOLD
THEM TO,
DOWN
TO THE
LETTER.



BECAUSE
YOU
AREN'T
OUR
MINA,
THAT'S
WHY!!

THEY MAY BE
BOUND TO YOU BY
THE BLOOD PACT,
BUT THEY SURE
AS HELL AREN'T
GOING TO ROLL
OVER AND FOLLOW
YOUR ORDERS
LIKE MINDLESS
ZOMBIES!



DO YOU
HAVE
ANY
IDEA
WHY?!



WHERE'S
OUR
HIME-
SAN?



DID YOU
COME ALL
THIS WAY
JUST TO
TELL ME
THAT...?

AND I
WOULDN'T
TELL YOU
EVEN IF
I DID.

I
HAVE
NO
IDEA.

TIME
FOR
PLAN
B...

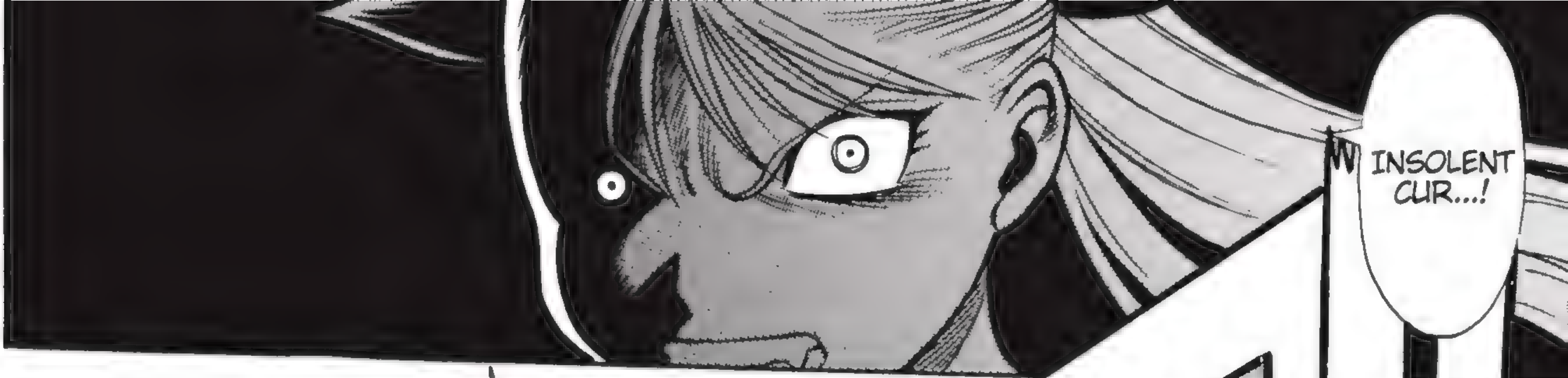
THOUGHT
YOU'D
SAY
THAT.

G
R
I
K

G
R
I
K

WITH
YOUR
LIFE
!!

YOU'RE
GONNA
PAY
FOR
WHAT
YOU
DID TO
HER...



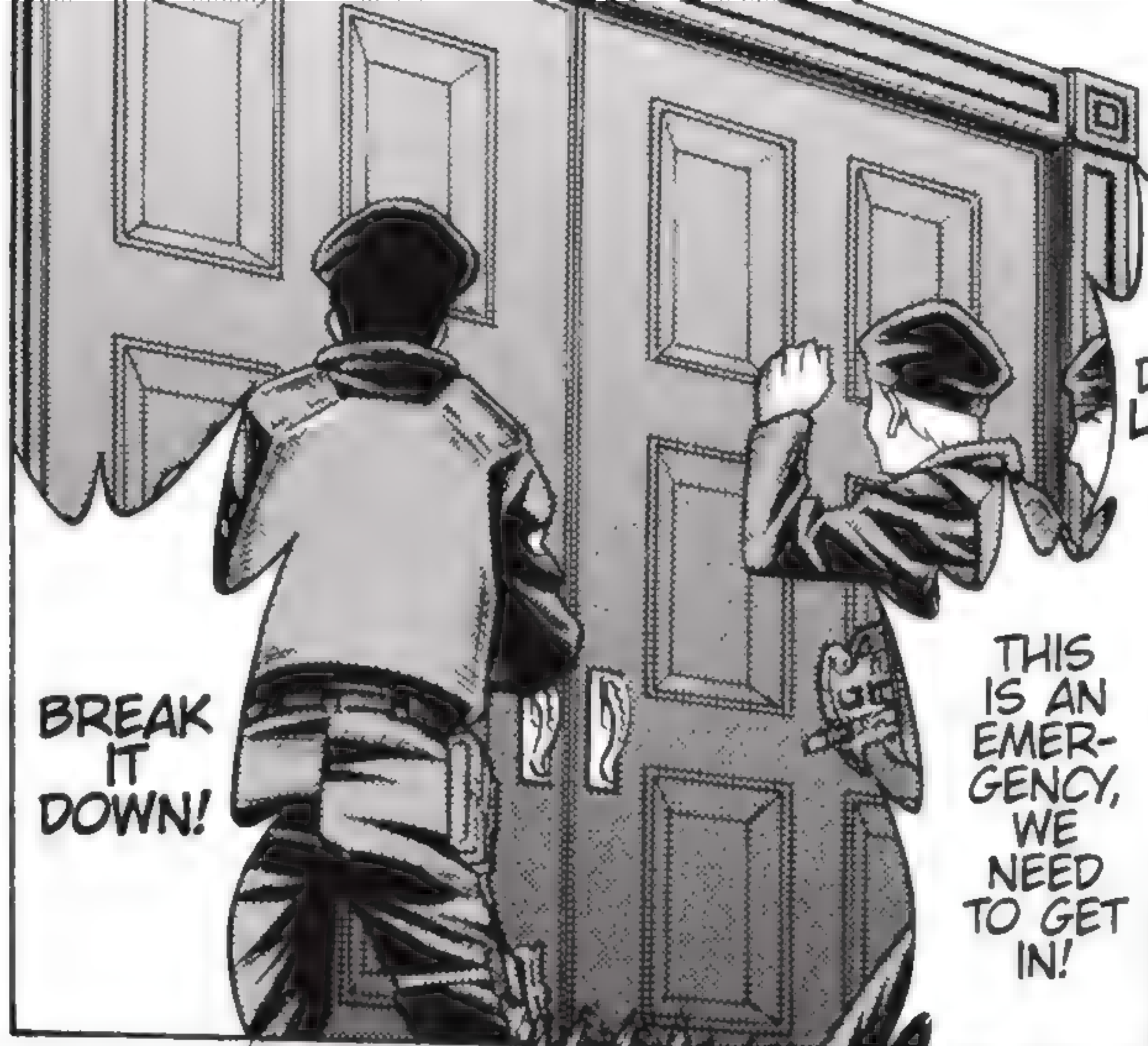
INSOLENT
CUR...!



FWOOOSH

WHO
DO
YOU
THINK
YOU
ARE
TALKING
TO?!!





BREAK
IT
DOWN!

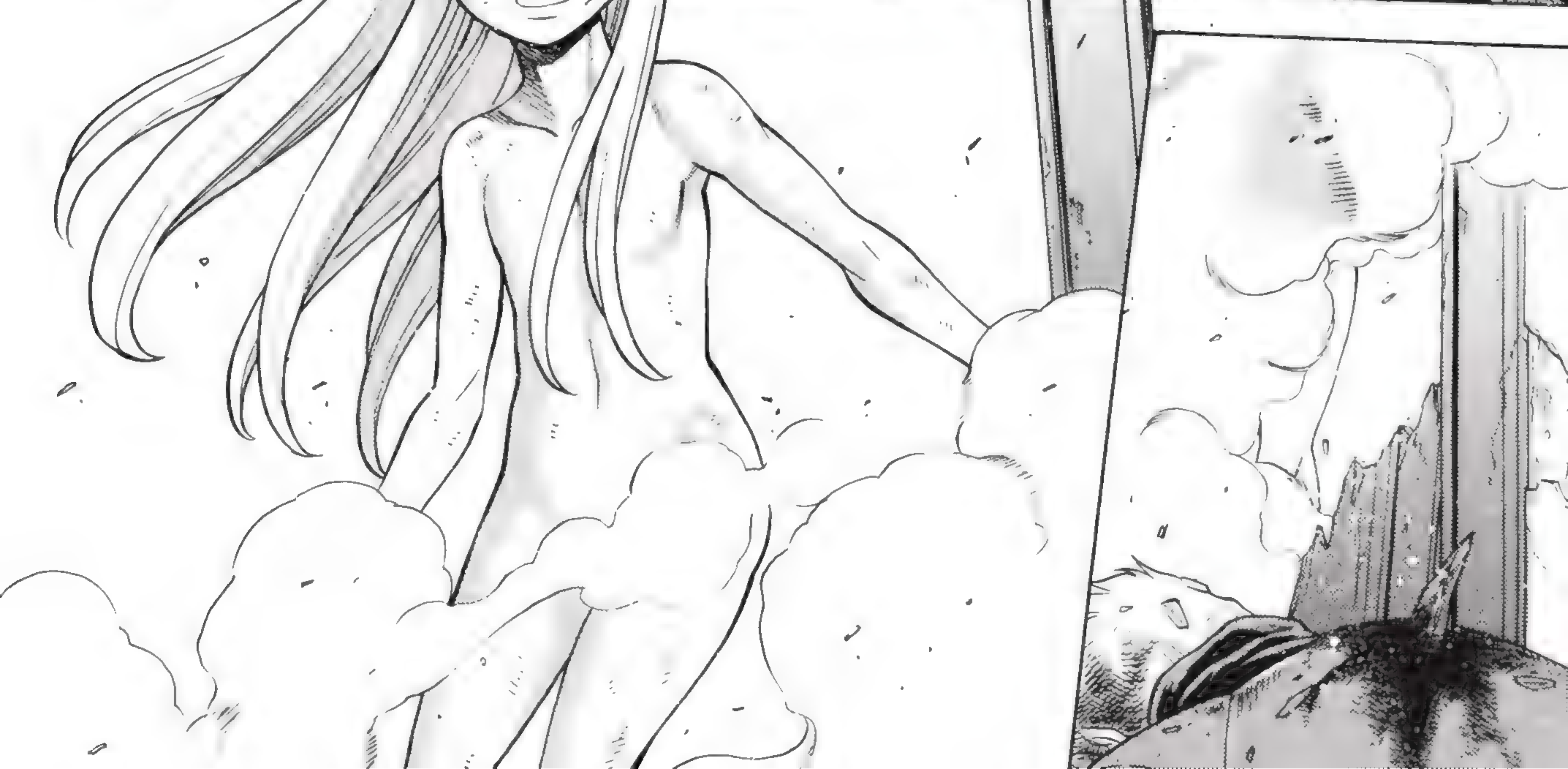
DAMMIT!
LOCKED!

THIS
IS AN
EMER-
GENCY,
WE
NEED
TO GET
IN!



YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY!

YOUR
MAJESTY,
WHAT'S
WRONG
?!





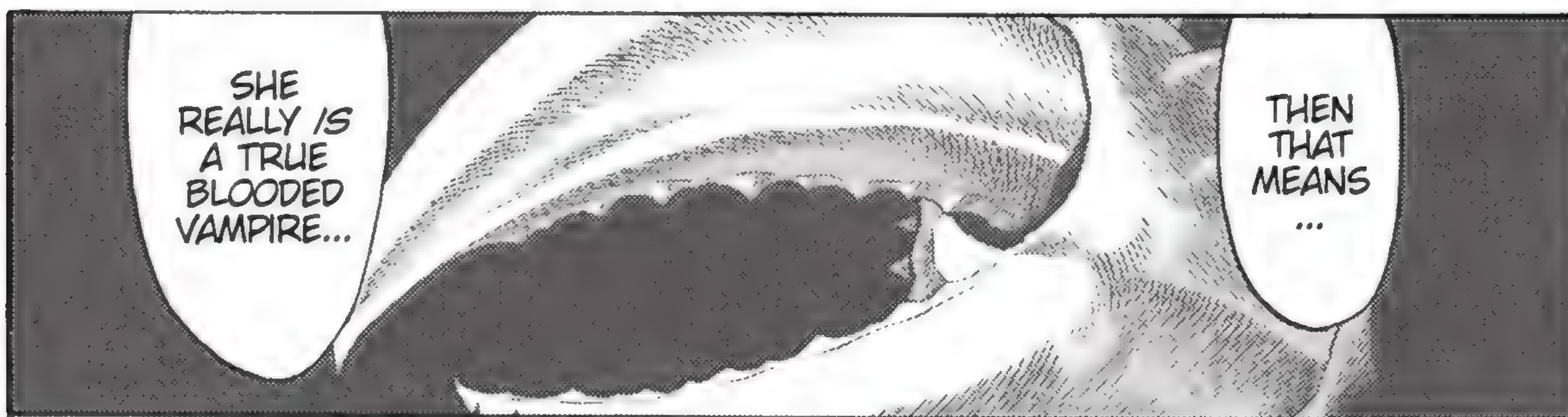
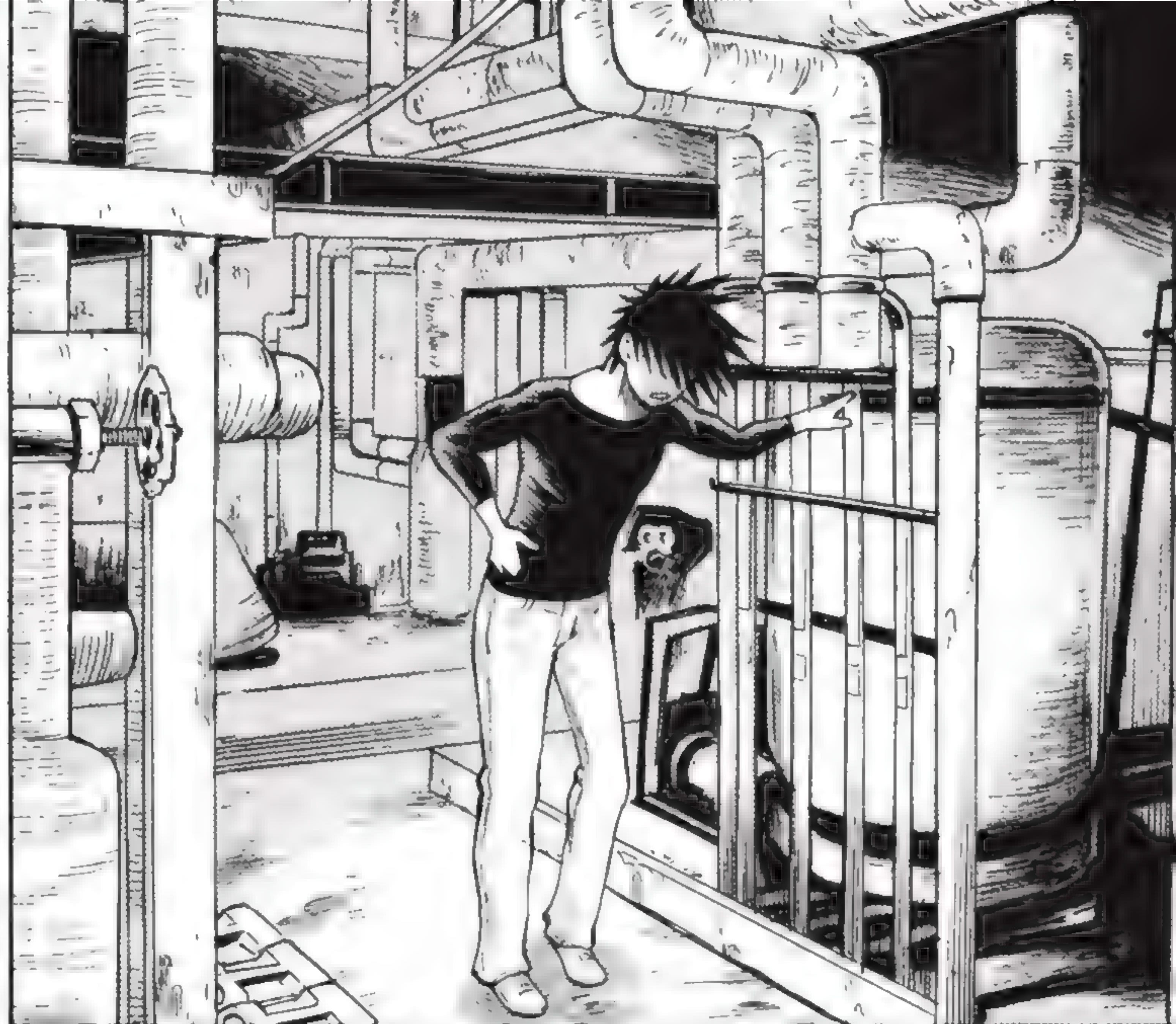
STOMP

Y-YOUR
MAJES--

AIR

SO HE
WENT
UP,
HM?

.....





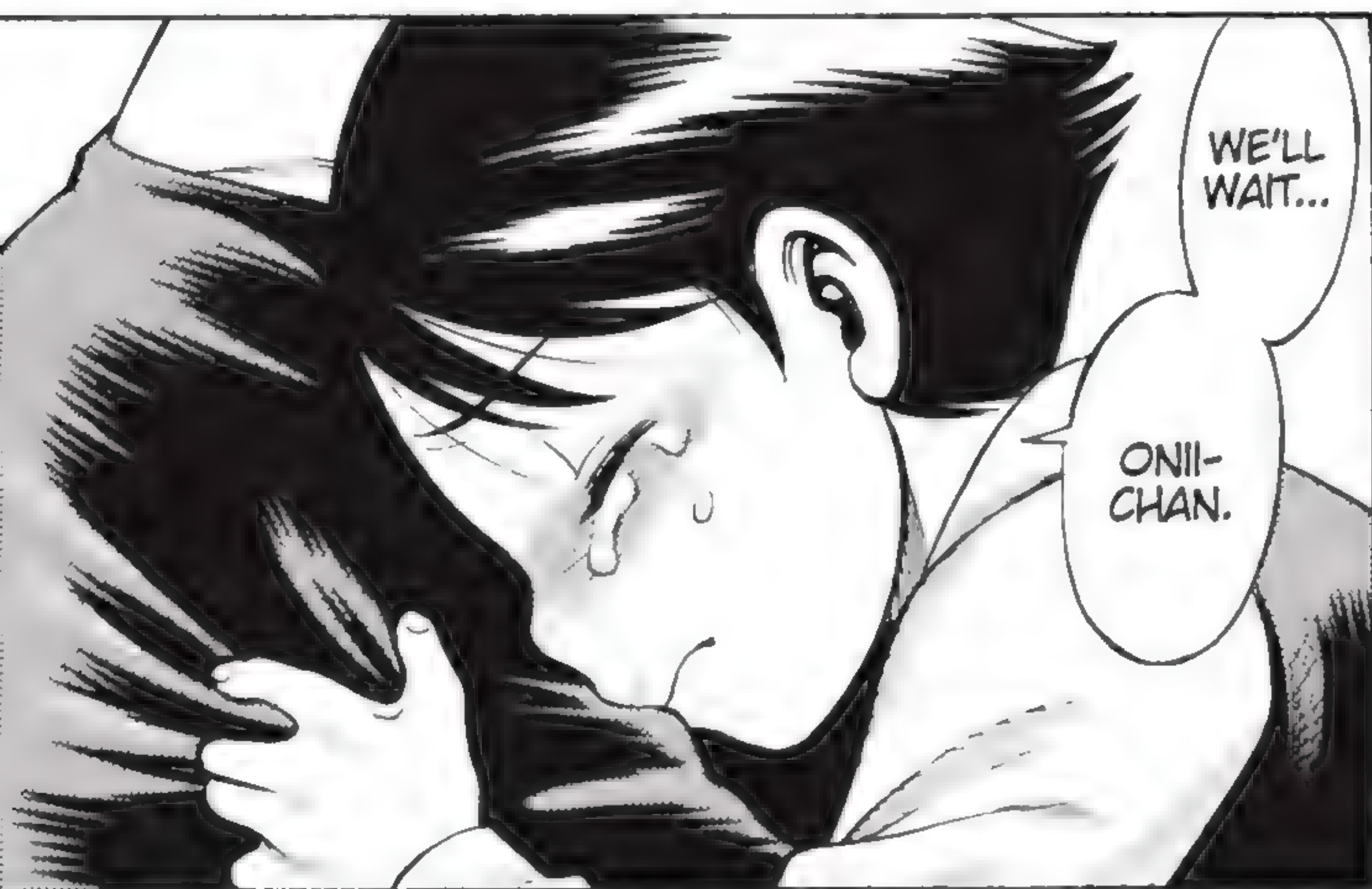
DON'T
BE
SILLY.

YOU
HAVEN'T
DONE
ANYTHING
WRONG.
THERE'S NO
NEED FOR
YOU TO
APOLOGIZE.



I'M
SORRY,
ONII-
CHAN!

I'M
REALLY,
REALLY
SORRY!



WE'LL
WAIT...

ONII-
CHAN.



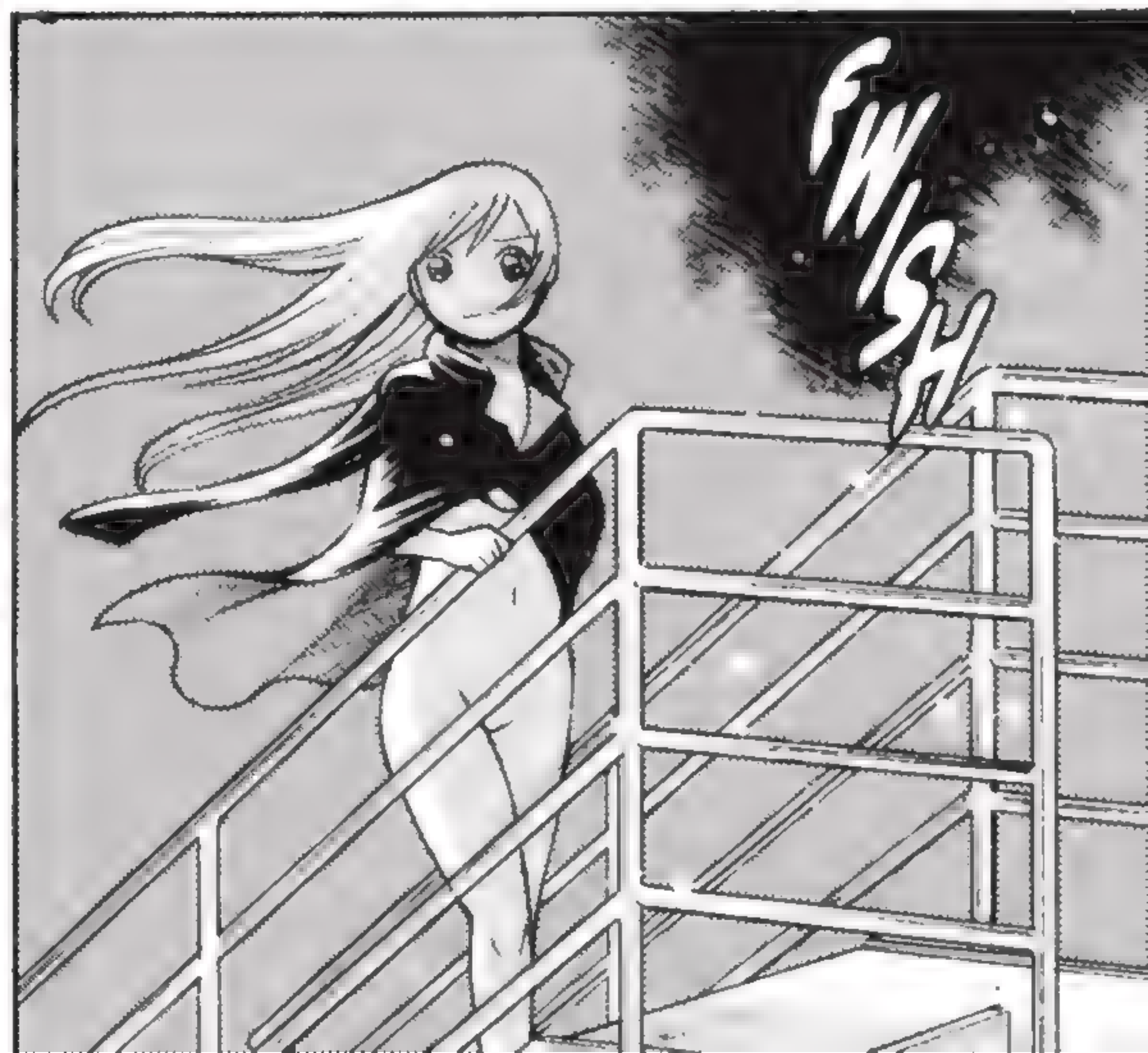
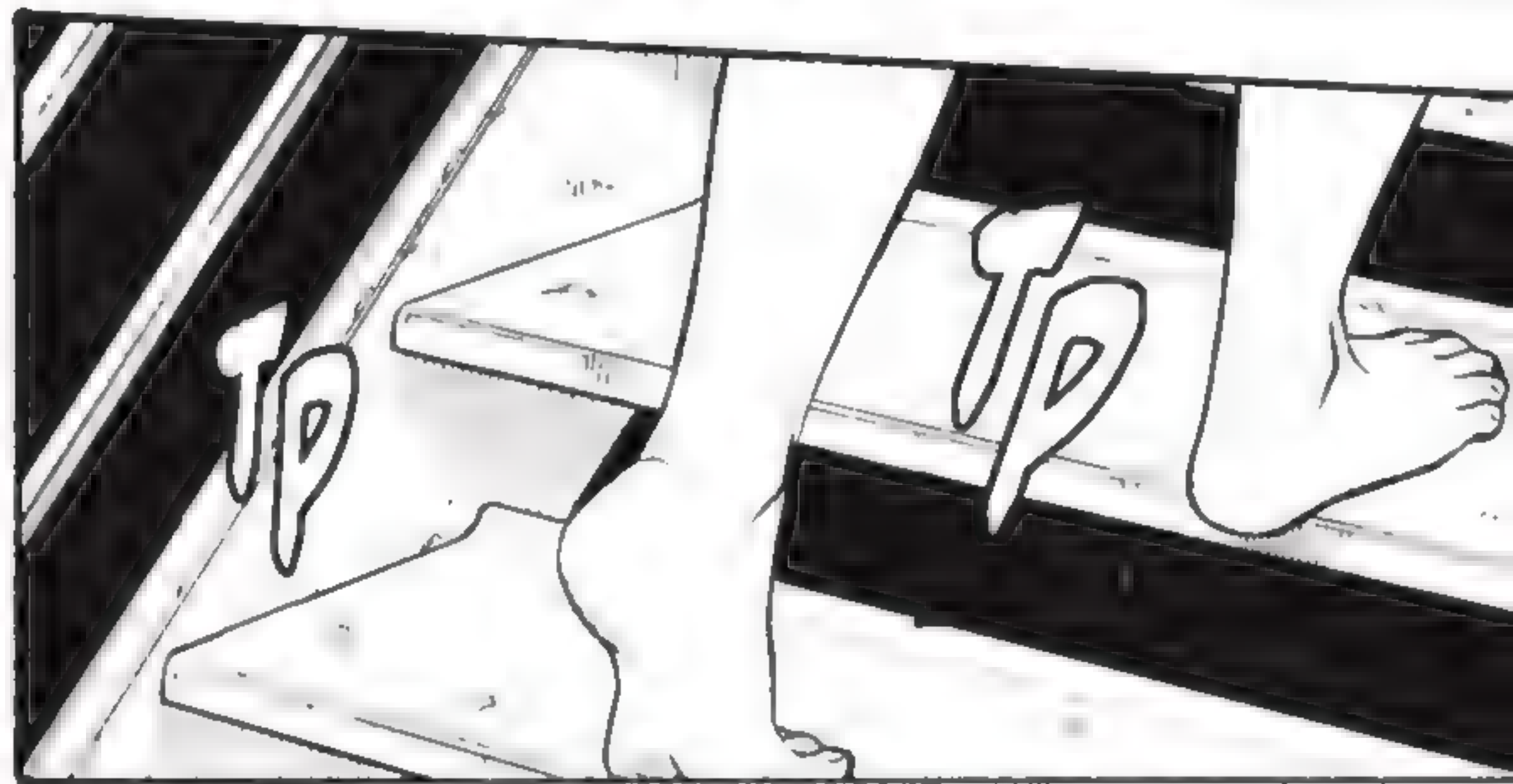
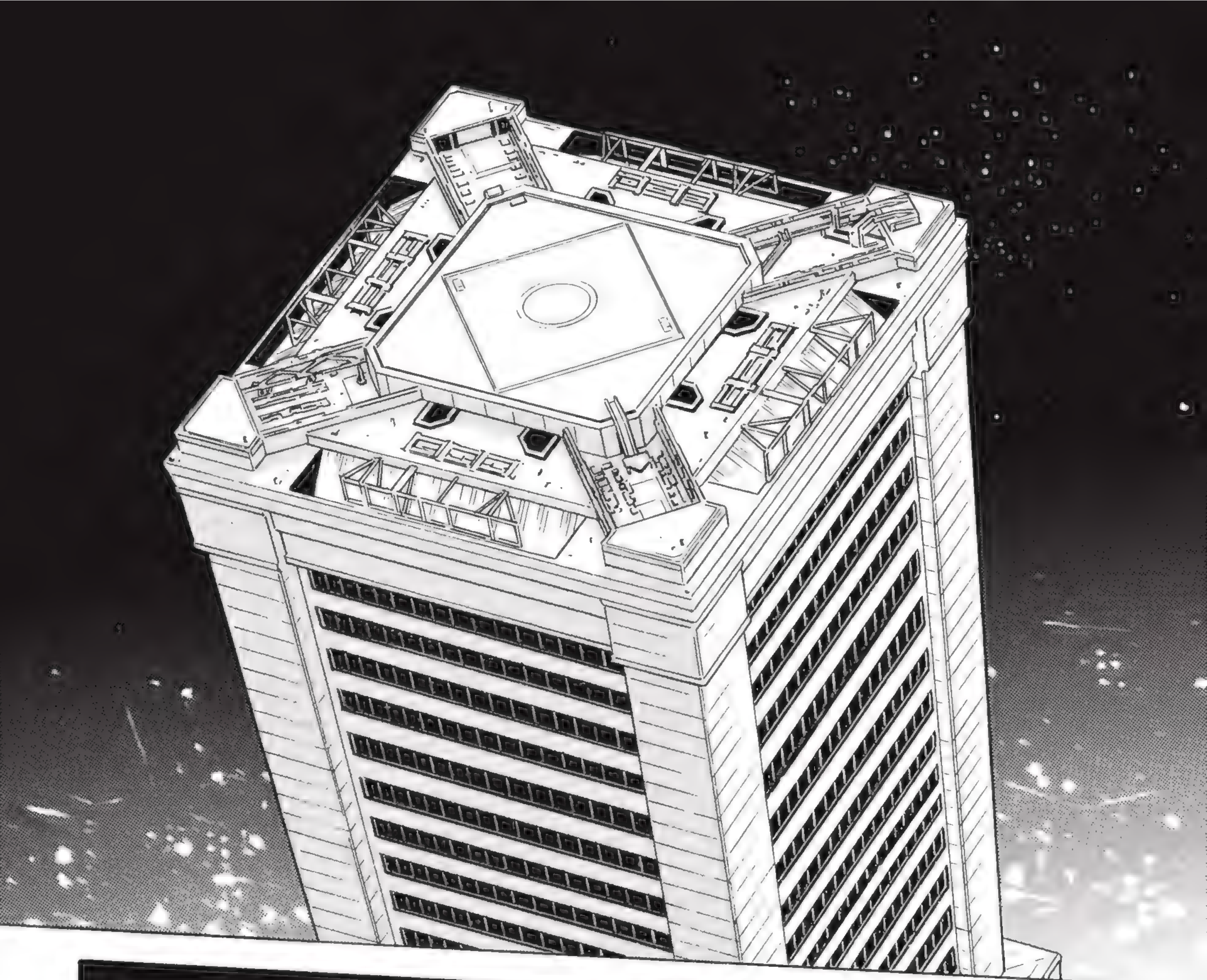
TIME'S
ALMOST
UP...

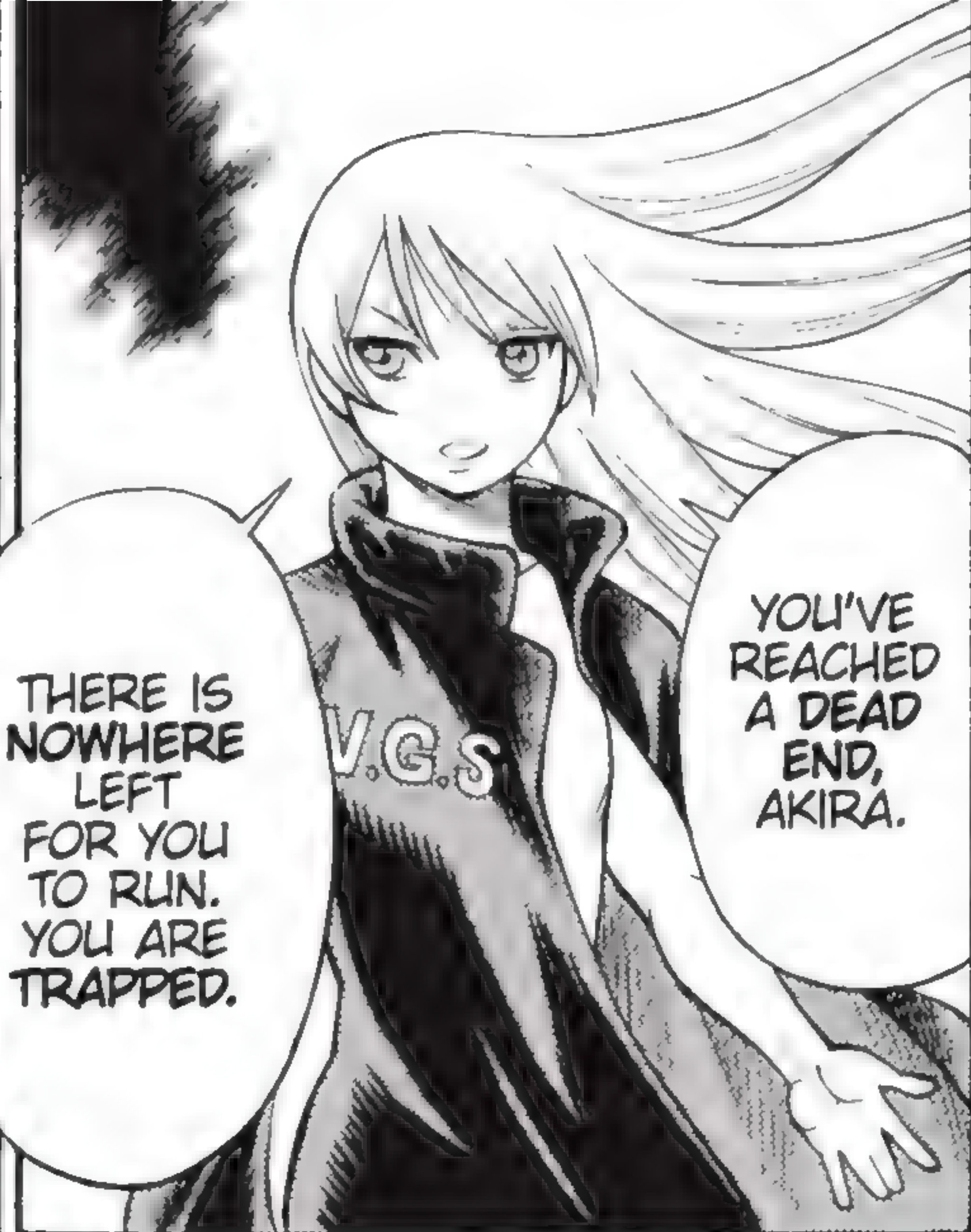
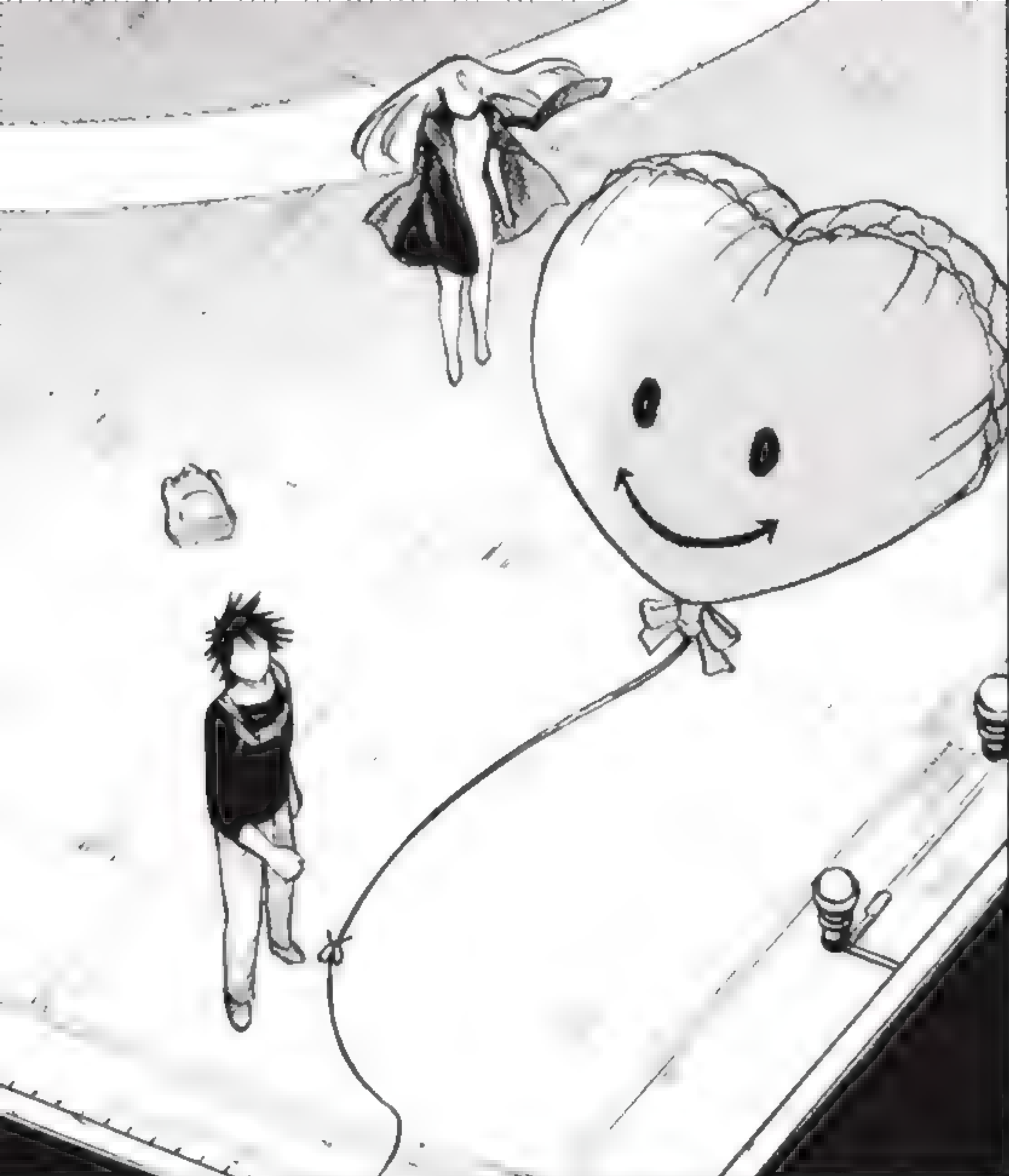
I'VE
GOT
TO GET
GOING.



HANG IN
THERE
JUST A
LITTLE BIT
MORE,
OKAY?

I'M
GOING TO
GO FIND
HIME-SAN,
AND BRING
HER HOME.
I
PROMISE.









WHOOOSH

AKIRA!





GET
READY,
AKIRA
...

BROOOO

'CUZ
HERE'S
WHERE
THE
REAL
FIGHT
STARTS
...



YEAH.
FOR
BOSNIA
AT
LEAST.

TAKE
CARE OF
THE KID
FOR ME,
WOULD
YA?

HEY
!!



TARGET
SUC-
CESS-
FULLY
AC-
QUIRED.

HAMA!
THIS
MAKES
US
EVEN,
GOT
IT?!



HNH.
HAD THIS SET
UP AS MY
EMERGENCY
ESCAPE OFF
THE BLIND,
BACK WHEN I
WAS STILL
WORKING FOR
ROZENMANN...

DIDN'T
THINK I'D
NEED IT
AFTER I
TURNED COAT,
BUT I
GUESS IT
MANAGED
TO COME
IN HANDY,
AFTER
ALL.



HA
HA...

HA...



BWROOOOO



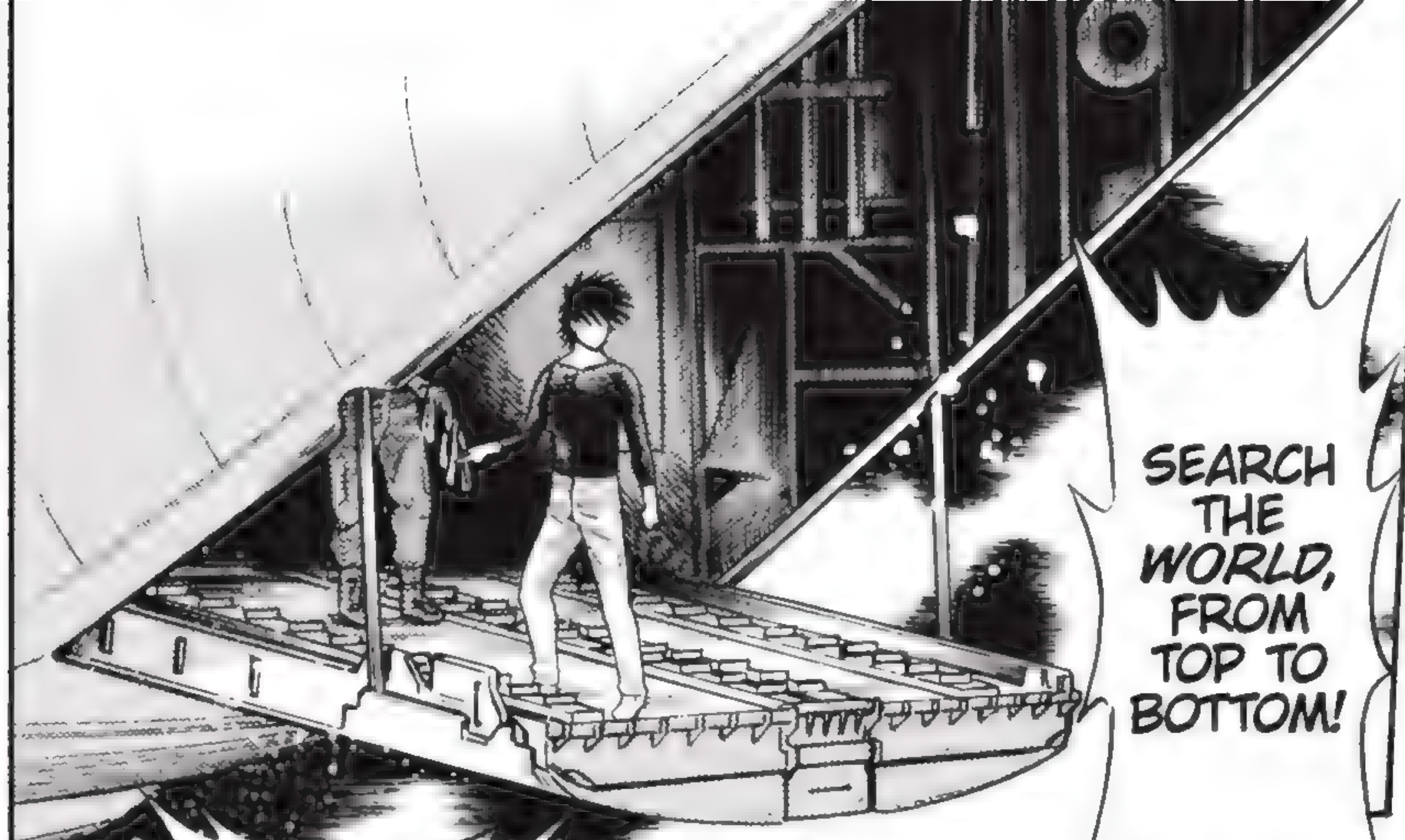
AHA
HA
HA
HA
!!

AHA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
!!!



YOU
HONESTLY
GOT
ME!
WELL
DONE!!

YOU
GOT
ME,
AKIRA
!



SEARCH
THE
WORLD,
FROM
TOP TO
BOTTOM!

BUT
SHOULD
YOU FIND
HER,
DON'T SAY
I DIDN'T
WARN
YOU!!
BECAUSE
THE MINA
YOU FIND...



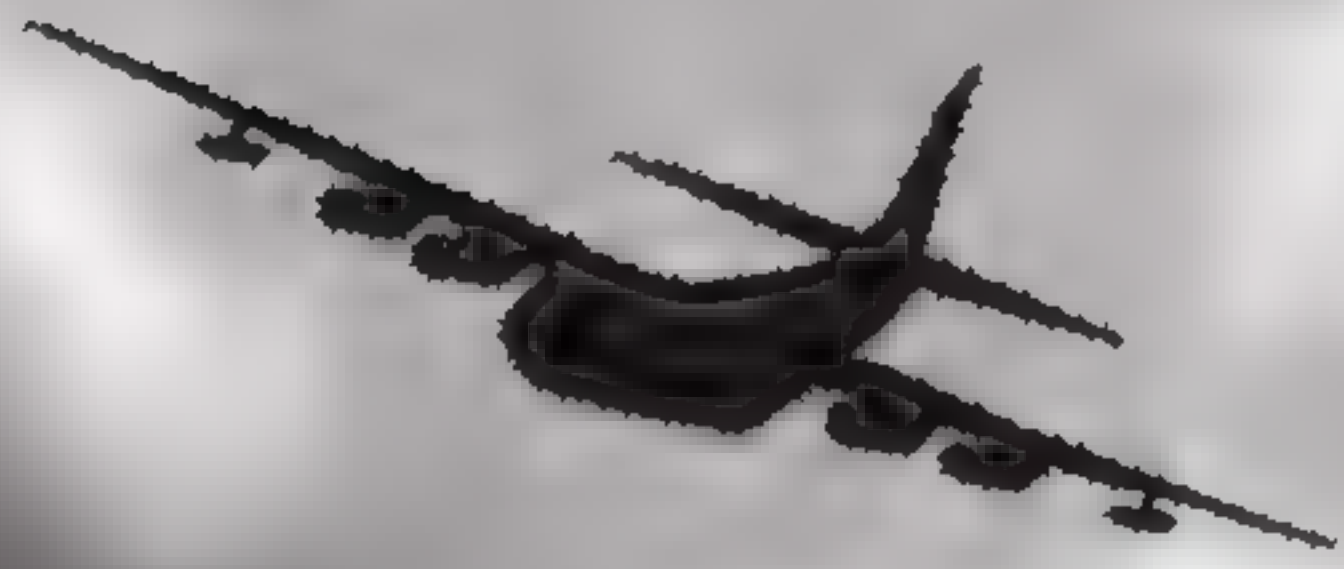
MIGHT
NOT
BE THE
MINA
YOU'VE
ALWAYS
KNOWN
!!

VERY
WELL!
TRY
IF YOU
LIKE!



TRY
AND FIND
YOUR
LOST
WING,
YOUR
MISSING
PRIN-
CESS!

BR0000
ゾ
オオオオ



BE
READY,
WOLF-
CHILD
!!

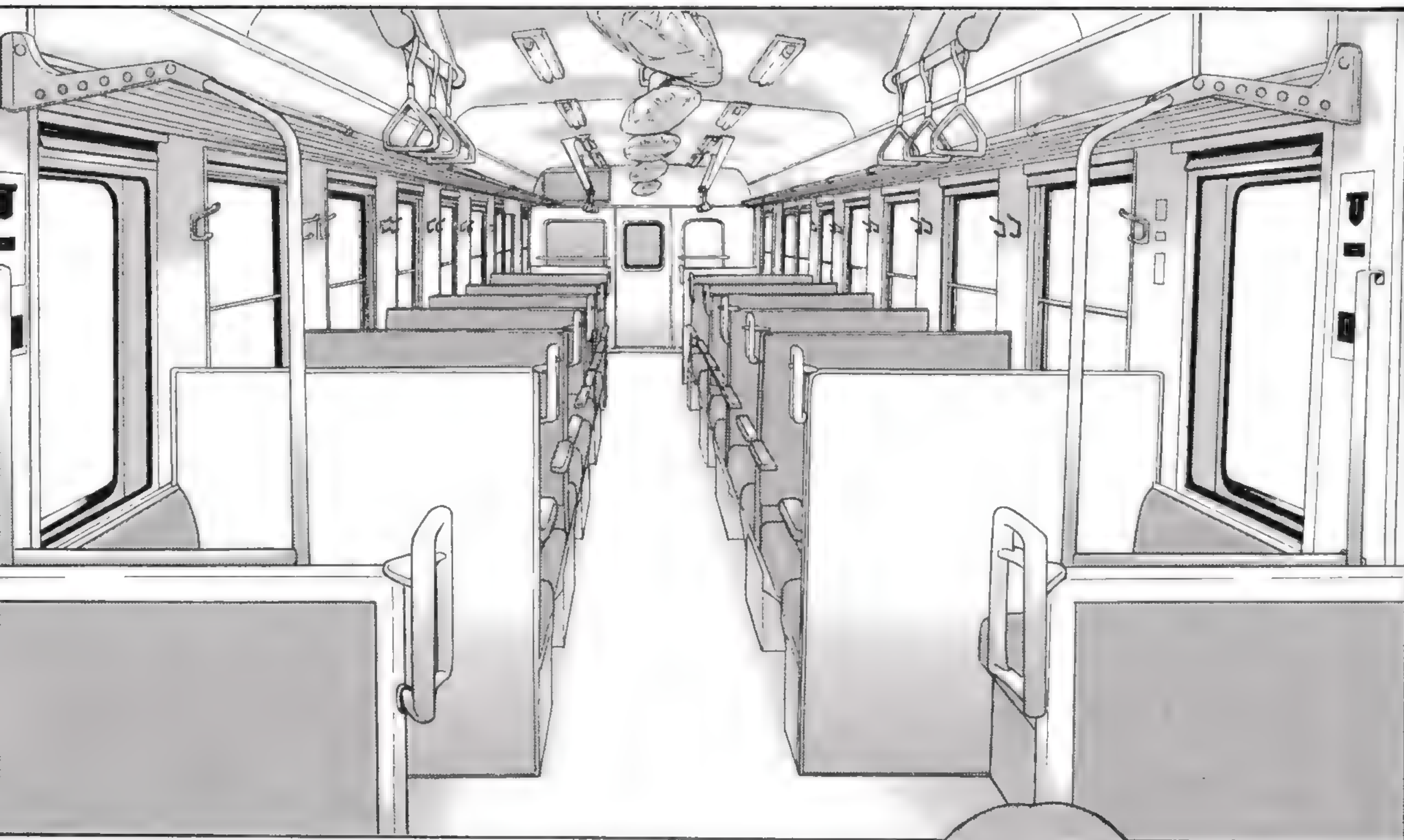
BE
READY
!!

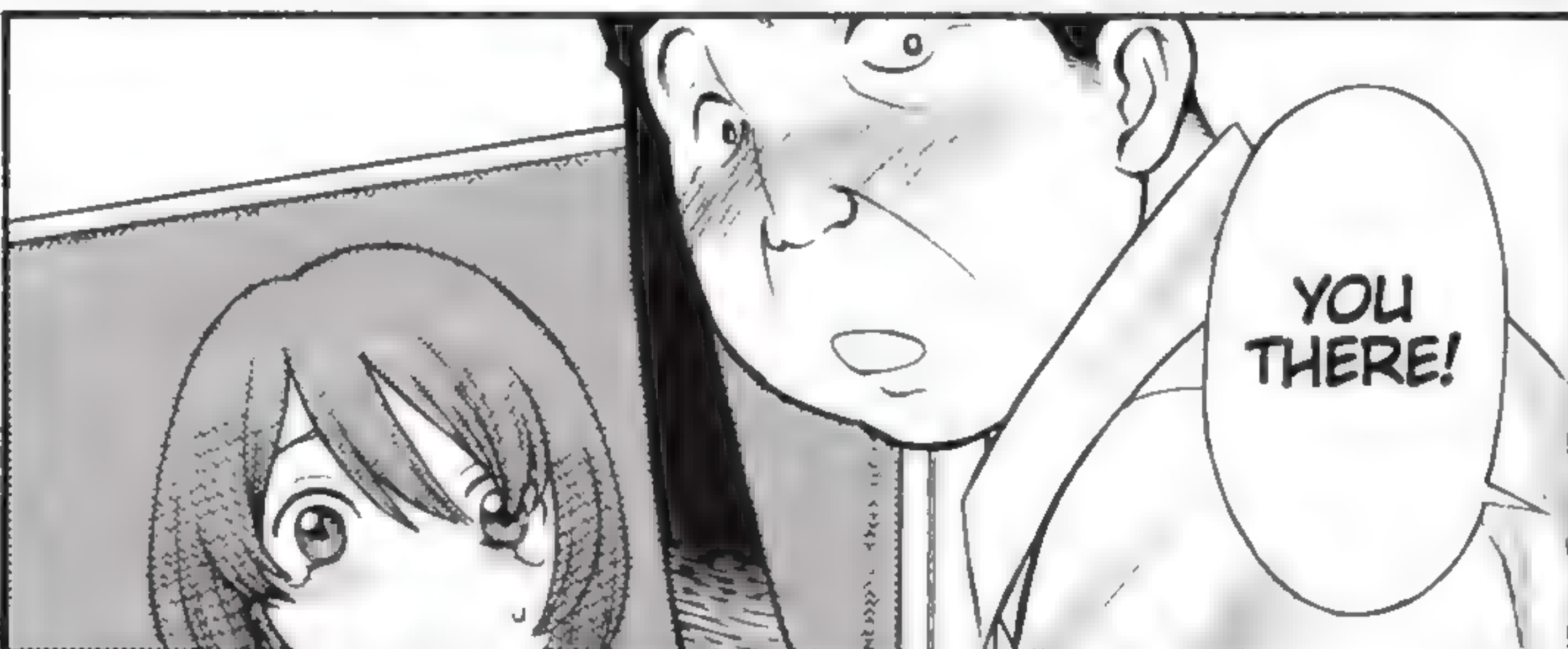
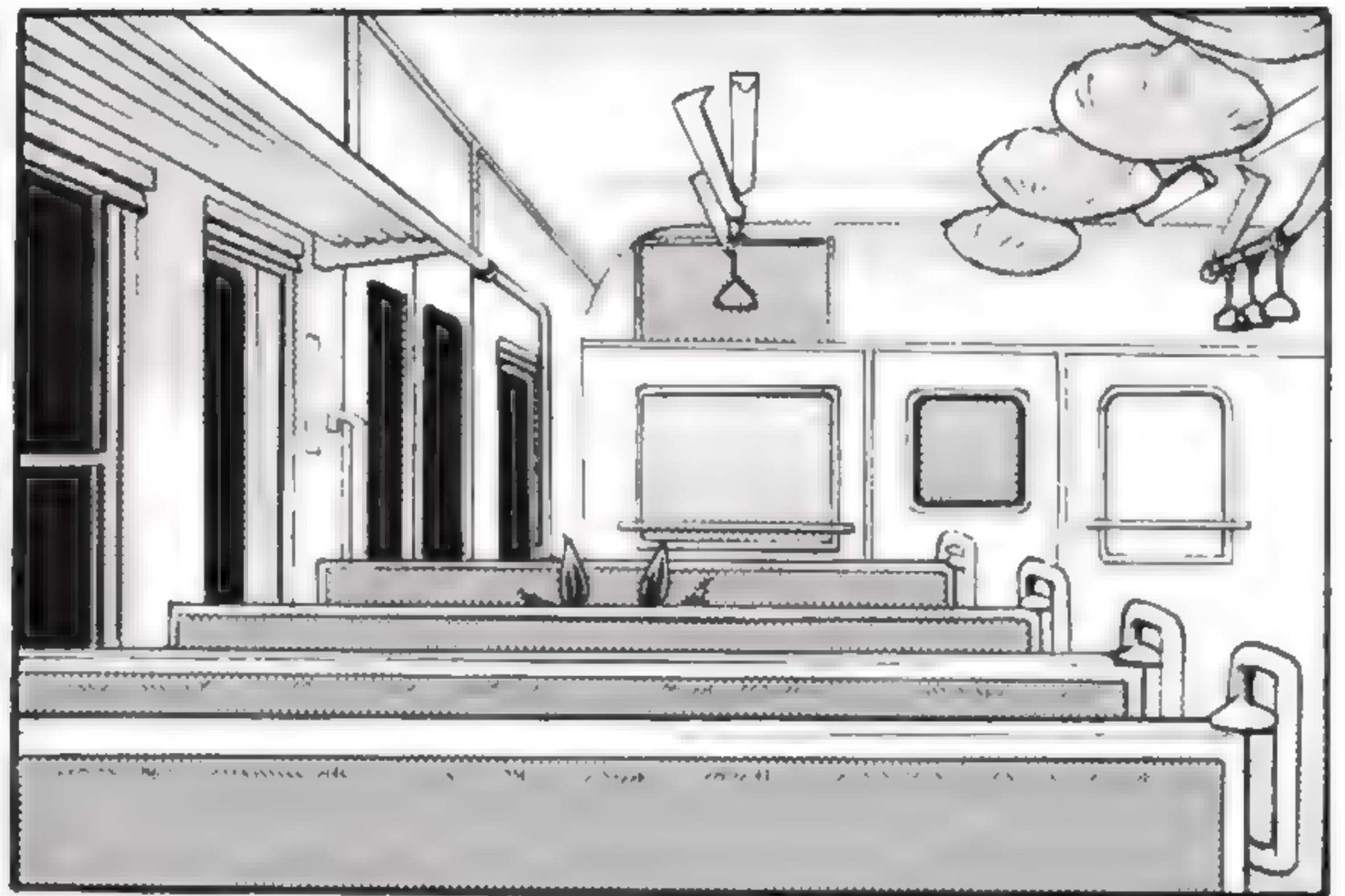
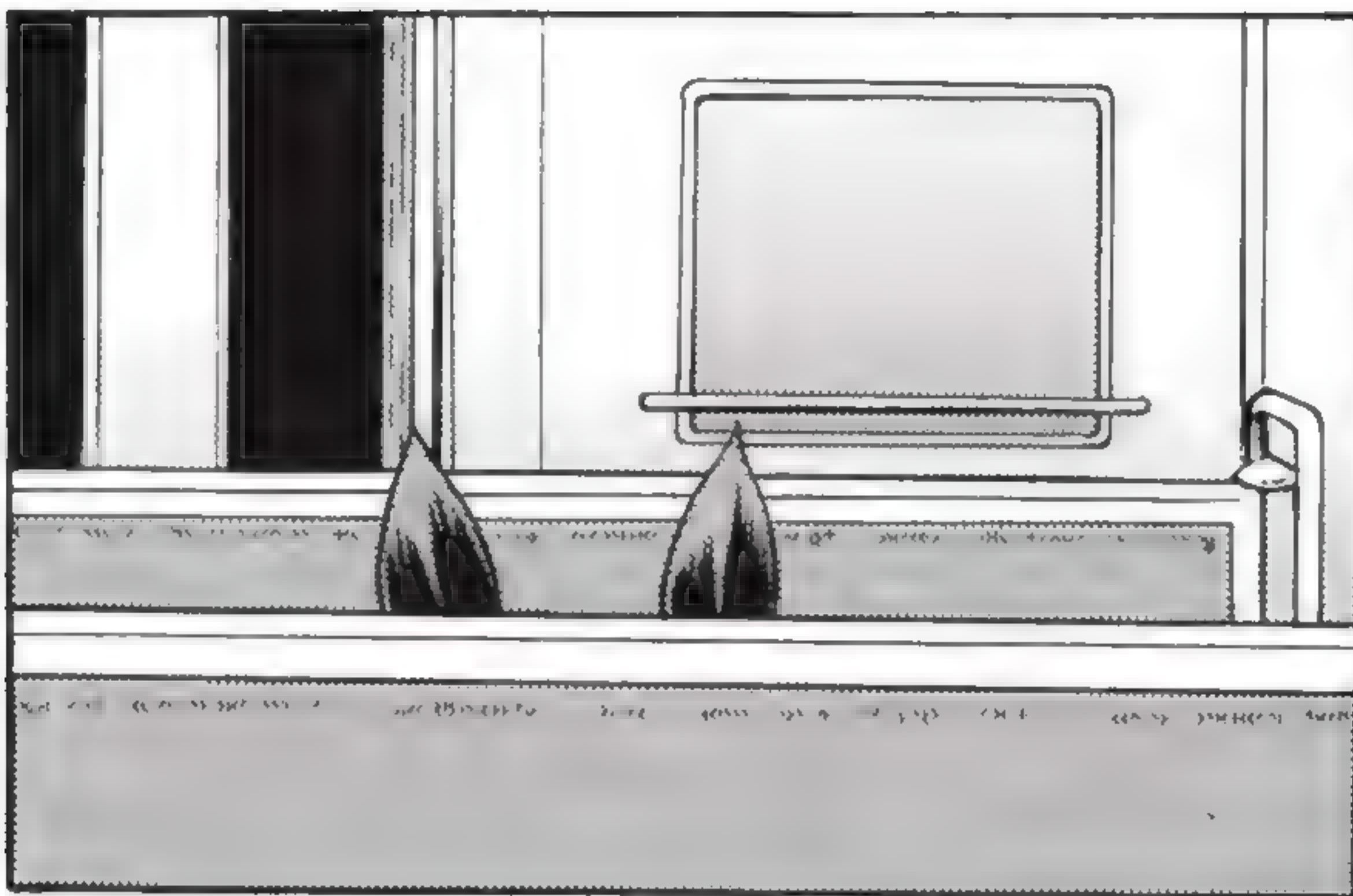


Dance In The Vampire Bund
ダンス イン ザ ヴァンパイア バンド

Special Issue: The Road to First Love







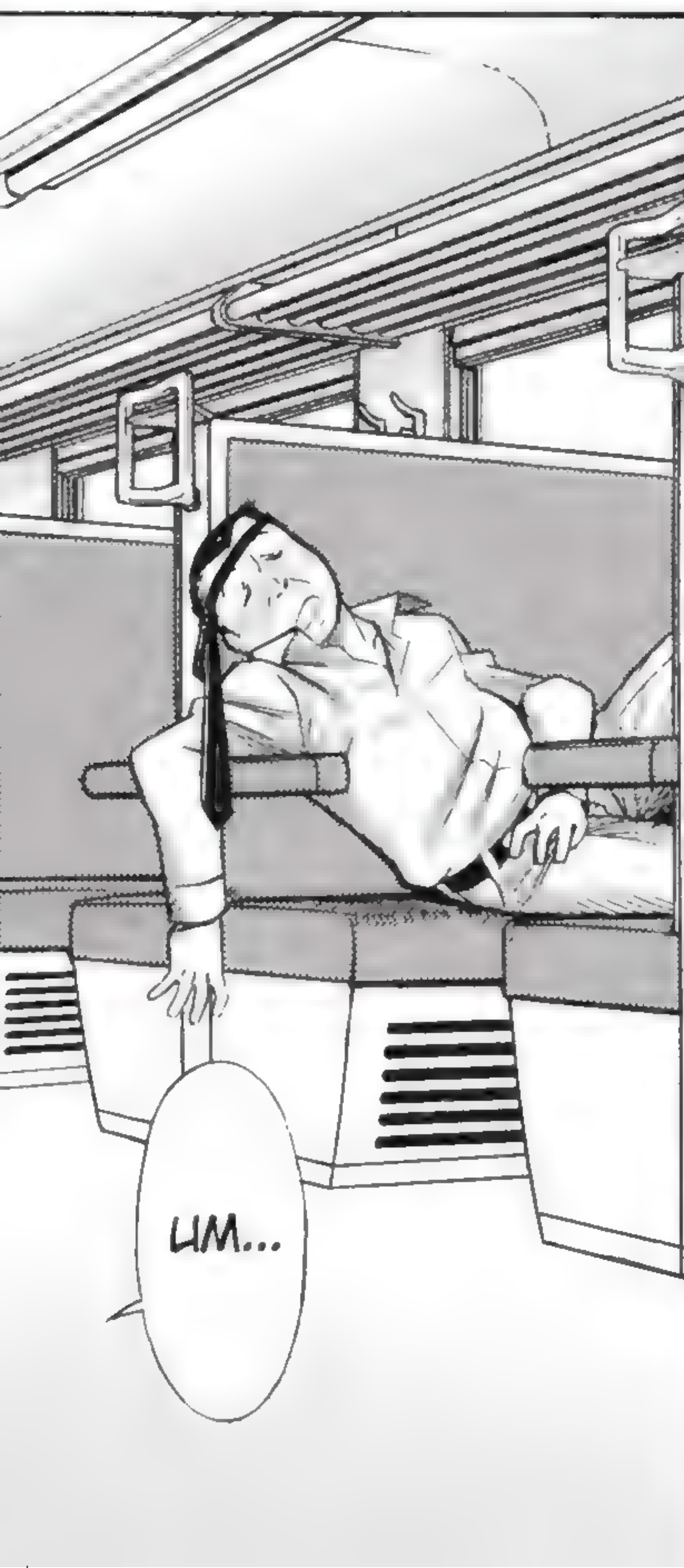


WHY
DON'T
YOU GO
REST,
OVER
THERE?

I THINK
YOU
MUST BE
TIRED,
AFTER
SUCH A
LONG
DAY'S
WORK.



WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU ARE DOING,
BOTHERING
THIS YOUNG
LADY?
AREN'T ADULTS
SUPPOSED
TO ACT
MATURELY
IN ALL
THINGS?



UM...



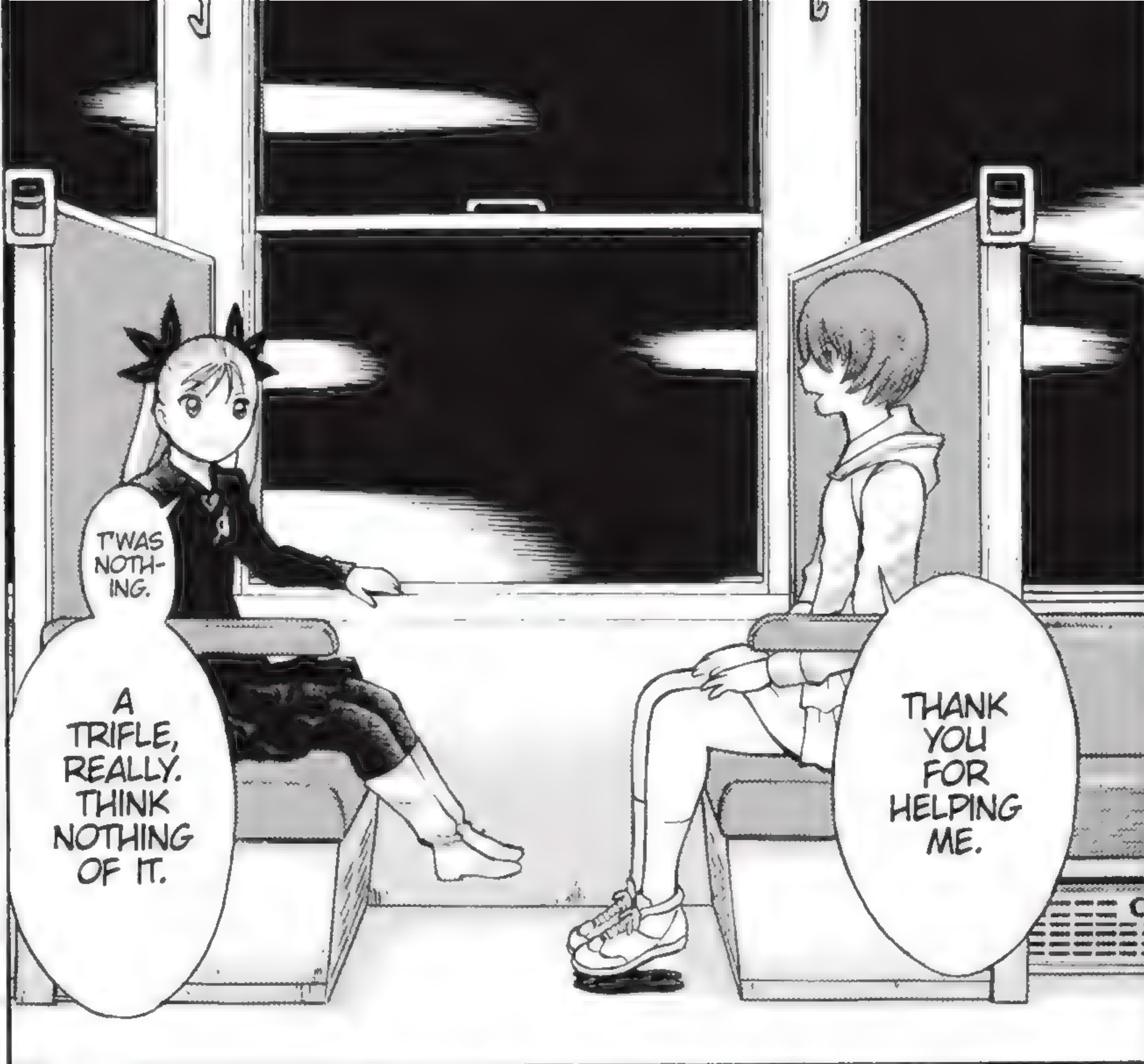
O-
OKAY
...





SHE MUST BE A FOREIGNER, WITH HAIR THAT PALE...

WOW... SHE'S SO PRETTY.



T WAS NOTHING.

A TRIFLE, REALLY. THINK NOTHING OF IT.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME.



"PERFECTLY SPLENDID"? WHAT ERA DOES SHE THINK THIS IS...?

SO, UM... WHERE ARE YOU FROM?



TRULY? WHY, THANK YOU!

WHAT A PERFECTLY SPLENDID THING OF YOU TO SAY. I PUT MUCH EFFORT INTO LEARNING IT, SO I AM QUITE GLAD IT IS APPRECIATED.



IS THERE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?

EEP!

N-NO...



I WAS JUST THINKING THAT YOU SPEAK JAPANESE REALLY WELL...

I, UM ...



FOR NOW,
AT LEAST.

IF YOU
SPEAK
OF MY
HOMETOWN,
THEN IT IS
NOWHERE.

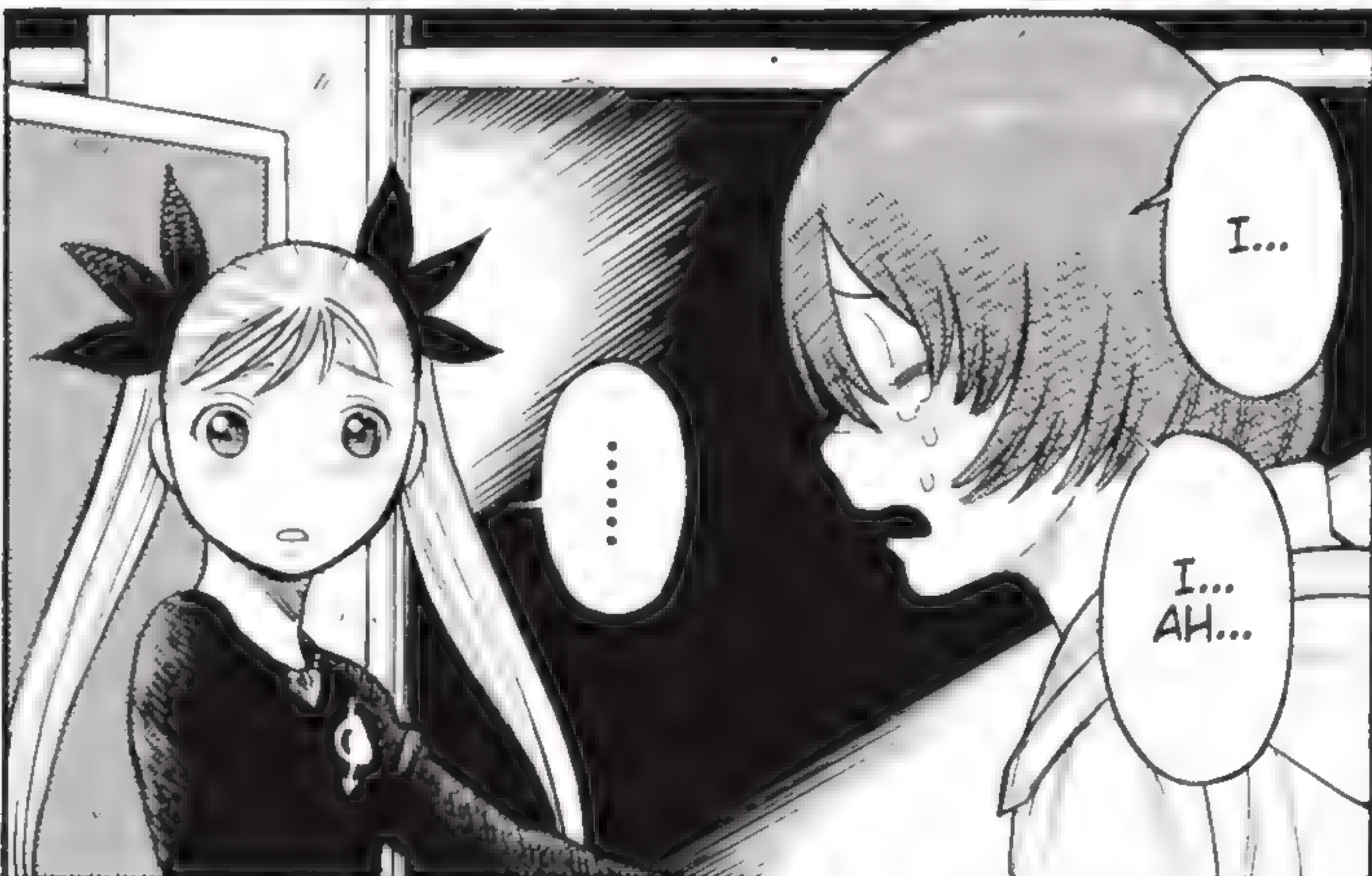
WHERE
AM I
FROM,
HM...?



?



.....



I...

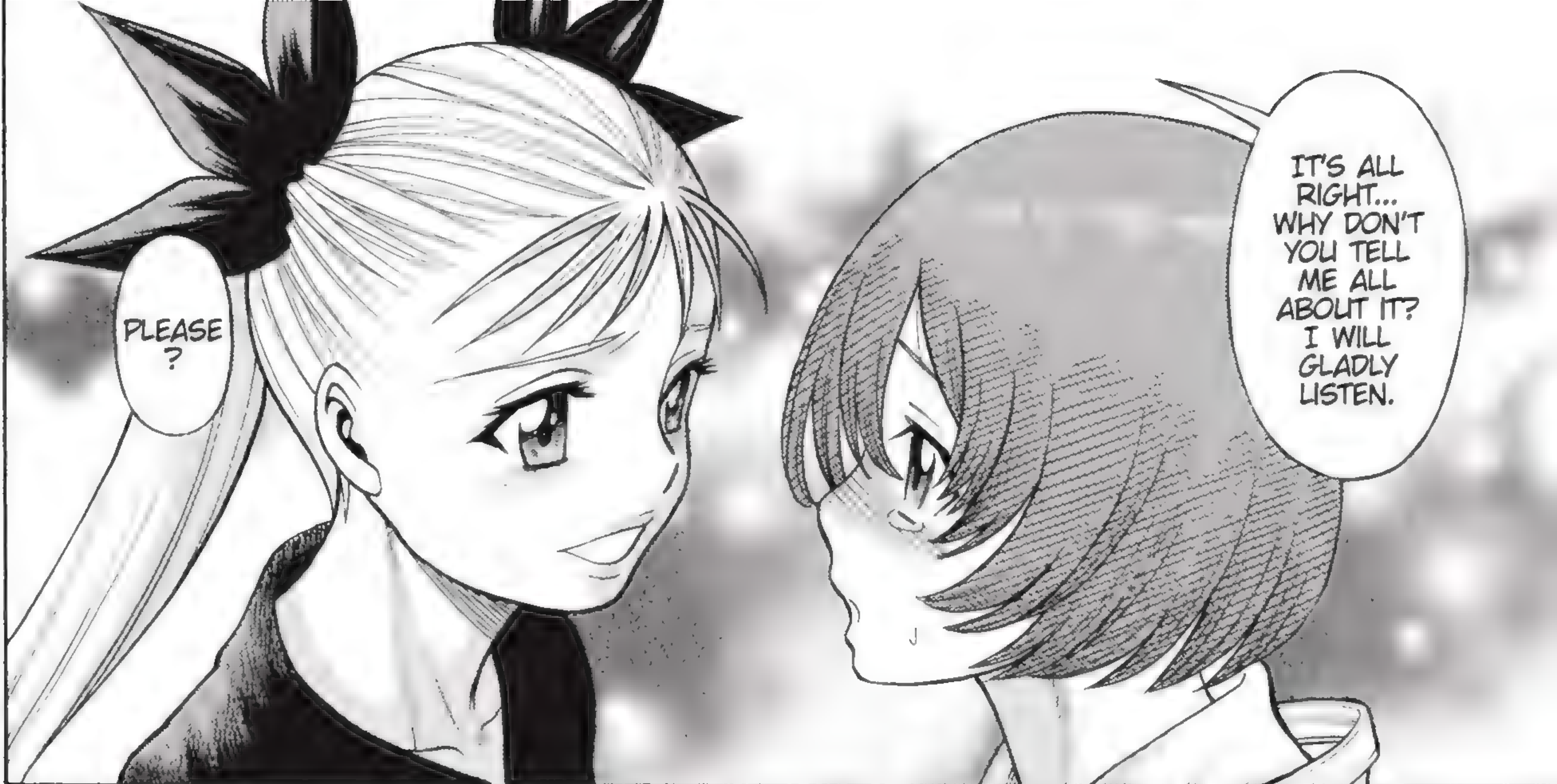
I...
AH...



WHERE
ARE
YOU
GOING?

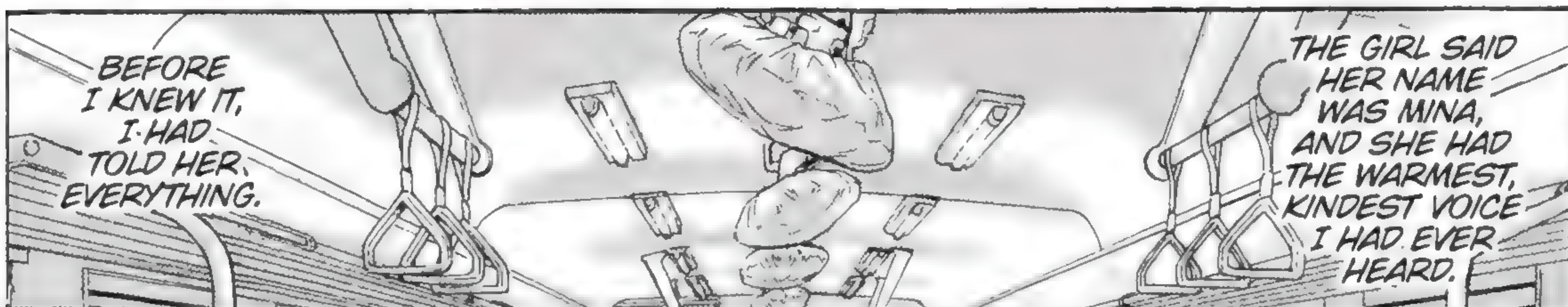
BUT
NEVER
MIND
ME.
WHERE
ARE
YOU
FROM?

THIS IS
HARDLY A
PROPER
TIME OF
NIGHT
FOR A
YOUNG
LADY TO
BE OUT
AND
ABOUT.



PLEASE?

IT'S ALL RIGHT... WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT? I WILL GLADLY LISTEN.



BEFORE I KNEW IT, I HAD TOLD HER EVERYTHING.

THE GIRL SAID HER NAME WAS MINA, AND SHE HAD THE WARMEST, KINDEST VOICE I HAD EVER HEARD.



ABOUT HOW I WAS STUCK AT HOME WITH THE MEASLES THE DAY HE HAD TO LEAVE, AND SO, I HAD NO CHANCE TO SAY GOODBYE...

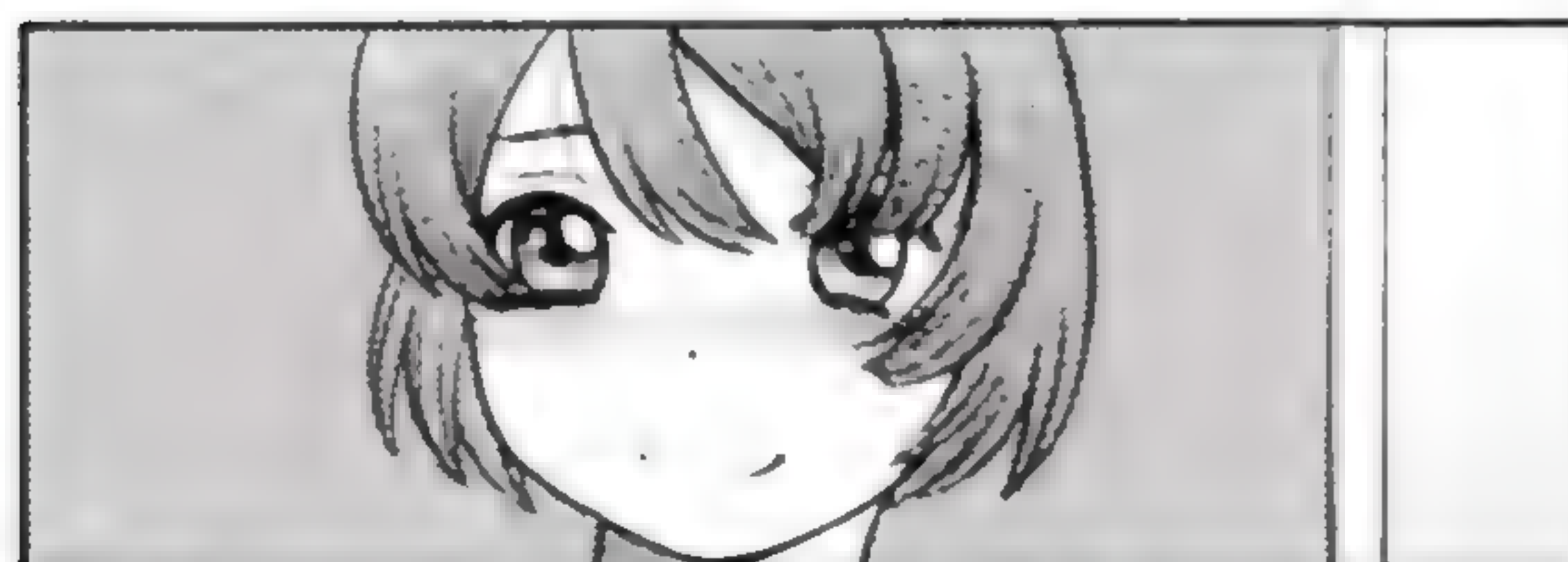
EVERYTHING ABOUT THE BOY, I WAS GOOD FRIENDS WITH AT SCHOOL, AND HOW HIS FAMILY SUDDENLY HAD TO MOVE.

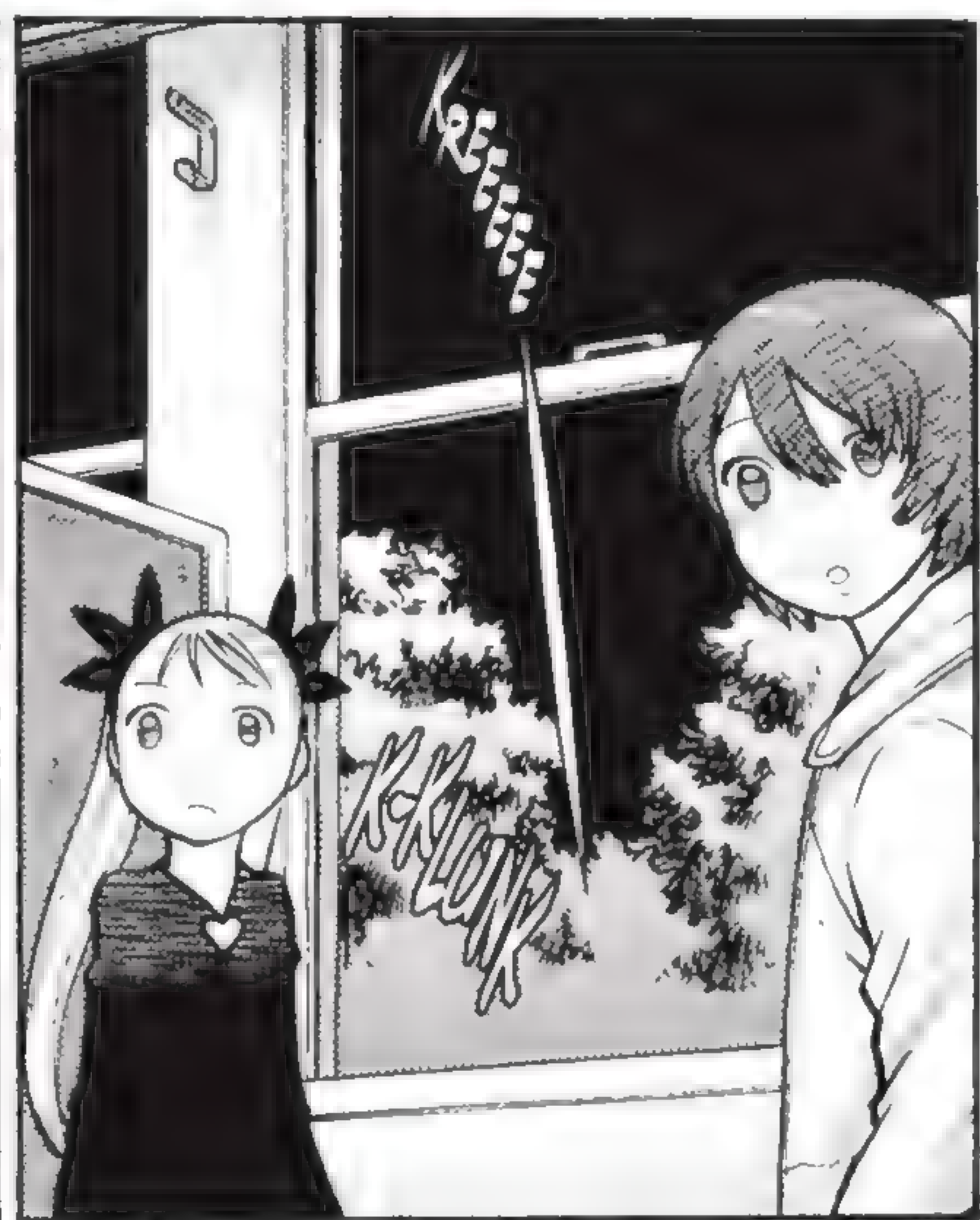


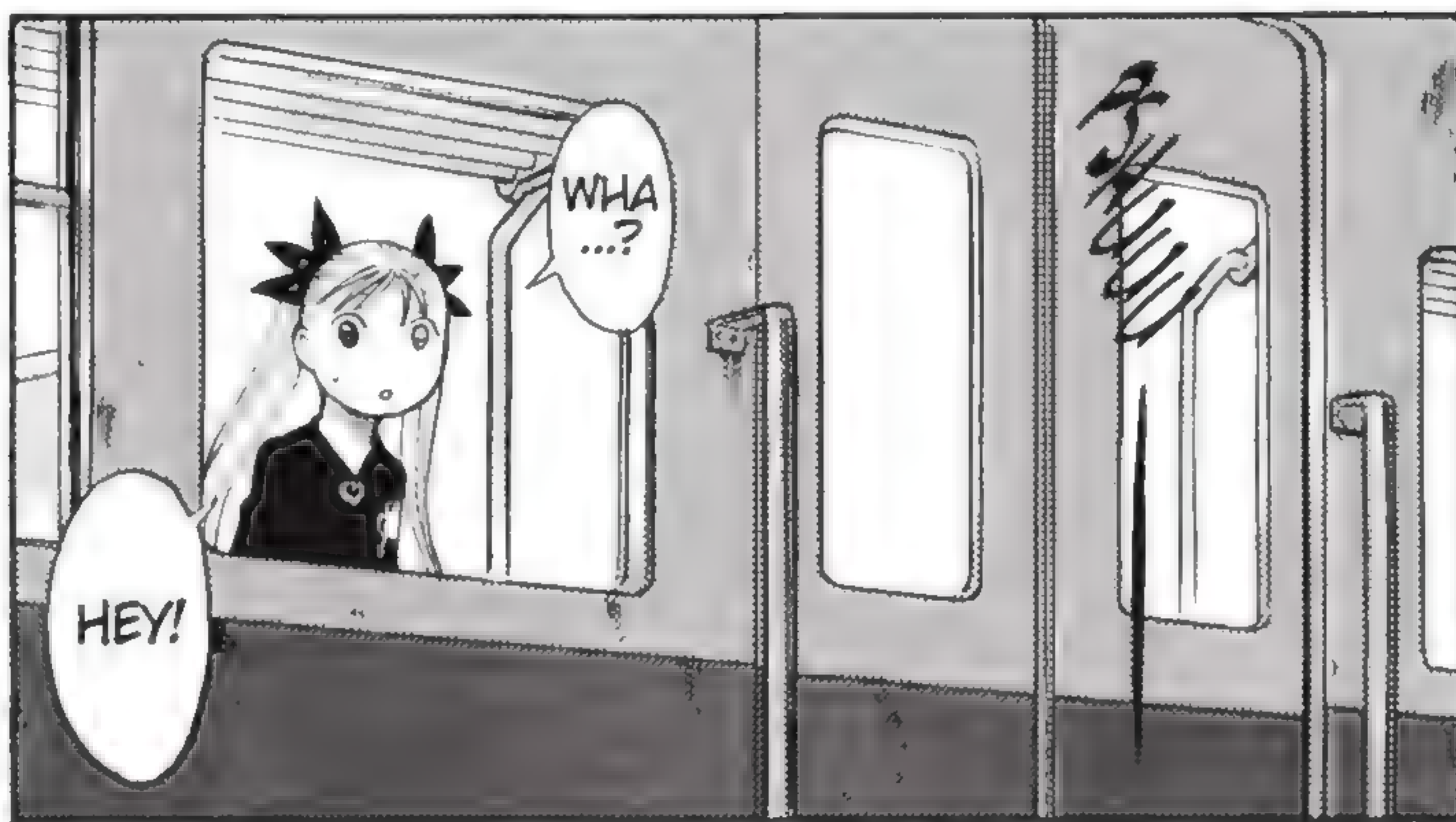
I... I JUST COULDN'T STAND IT. I HAVE TO SEE HIM AGAIN ...

SO YOU WISHED TO SEE THIS TAKAFUMI-KUN FOR ONE LAST TIME THAT BADLY, HM?

I SEE ...









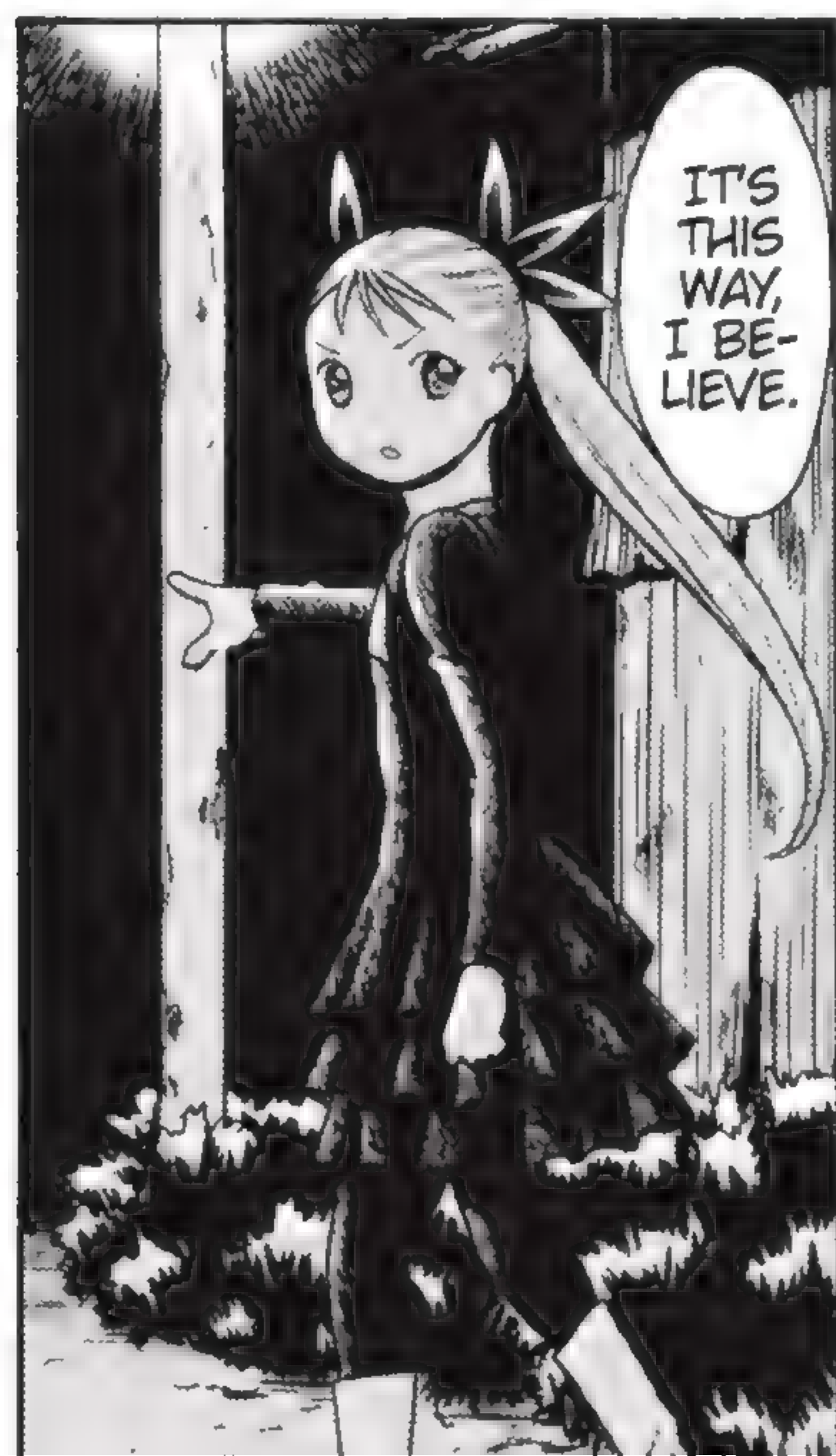
THERE HAS BEEN MORE THAN ONE WHO HAS NOT SAID THE THINGS THAT NEEDED TO BE SAID AT THE MOMENT WHEN THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN SAID, THINKING THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE A "NEXT TIME."

A SINGLE HUMAN'S LIFETIME IS A SHORT THING...

EPHEMERAL, LIKE A FALLING STAR.



FOR MANY, THAT "NEXT TIME" NEVER COMES. SO WHEN YOU FIND YOUR MOMENT HAS ARRIVED, HAVE COURAGE, ELSE YOU MAY BE LEFT WITH NAUGHT BUT REGRETS.

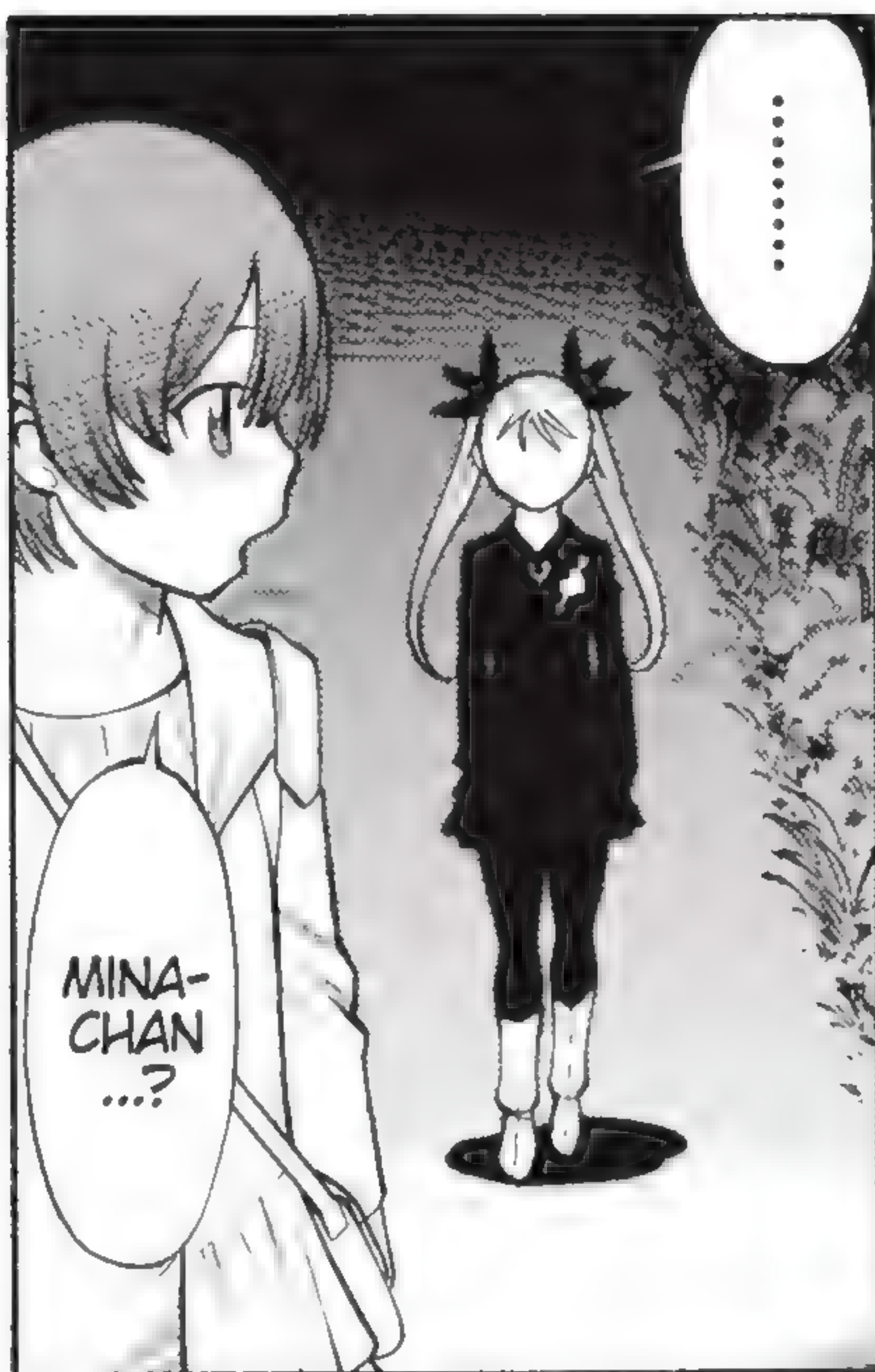


IT'S THIS WAY, I BELIEVE.



UM ...

WOW. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN AN UN-MANNED STATION.



MINA-
CHAN
...?



SAY,
WHAT'S
YOUR
"PRE-
CIOUS
PERSON"
LIKE...?



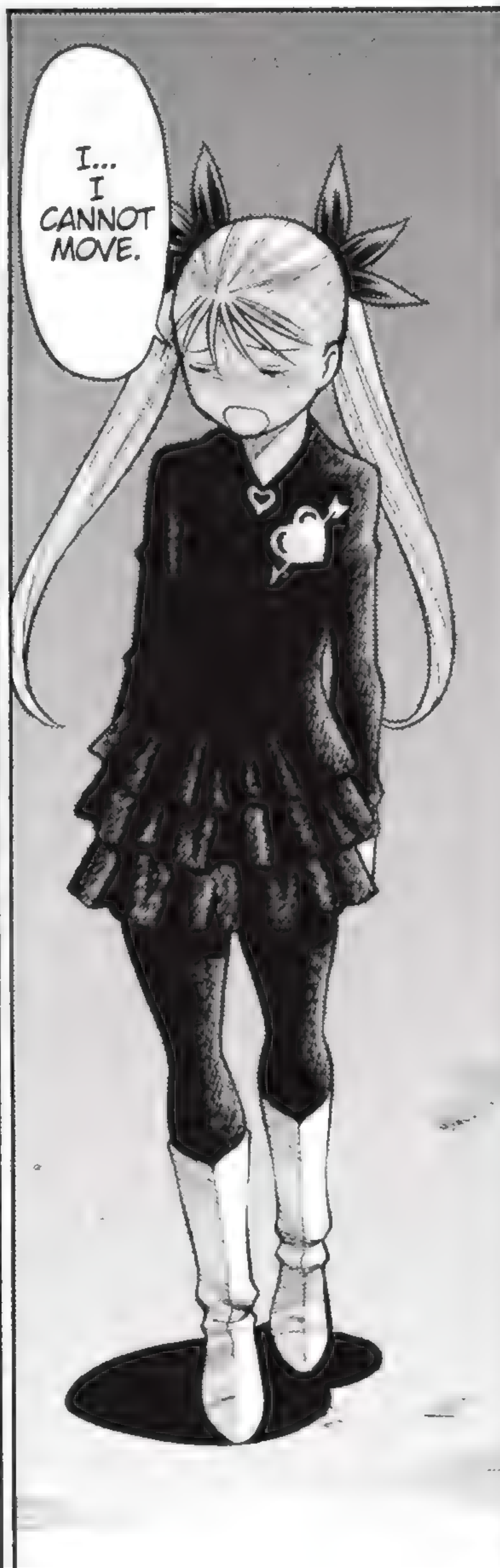
YES,
IT IS.

IT'S
REALLY
NICE
OUT
HERE...



EVEN
THOUGH
STAYING
WITH HIM
WOULD
ALL BUT
RUIN HIS
LIFE...!

I WANT
TO SEE HIM
SO BADLY,
BUT I
FEAR THAT
IF I DO,
I'LL NEVER
LEAVE HIM
AGAIN...



I...
I
CANNOT
MOVE.

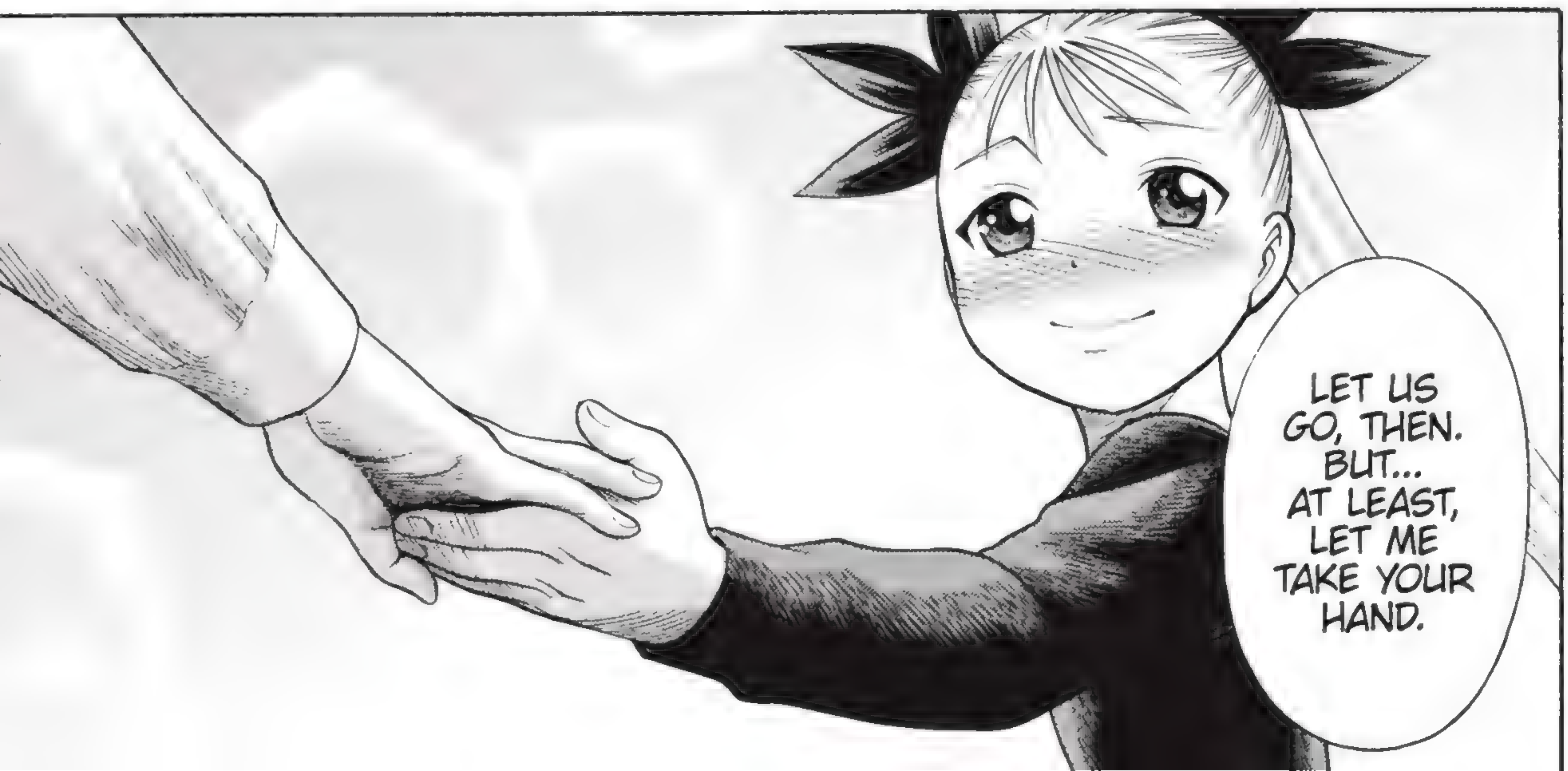


I DON'T
EVEN
KNOW IF
HE WILL
FEEL THE
SAME FOR
ME OR
NOT...

ALL OF
THIS--
ALL OF
IT!--
ARE MY
FEELINGS
ALONE.

LET'S
GO!

I...
I
DON'T
EVEN
KNOW
....!







THAT
LITTLE
BABY
?!

HUH
...?!

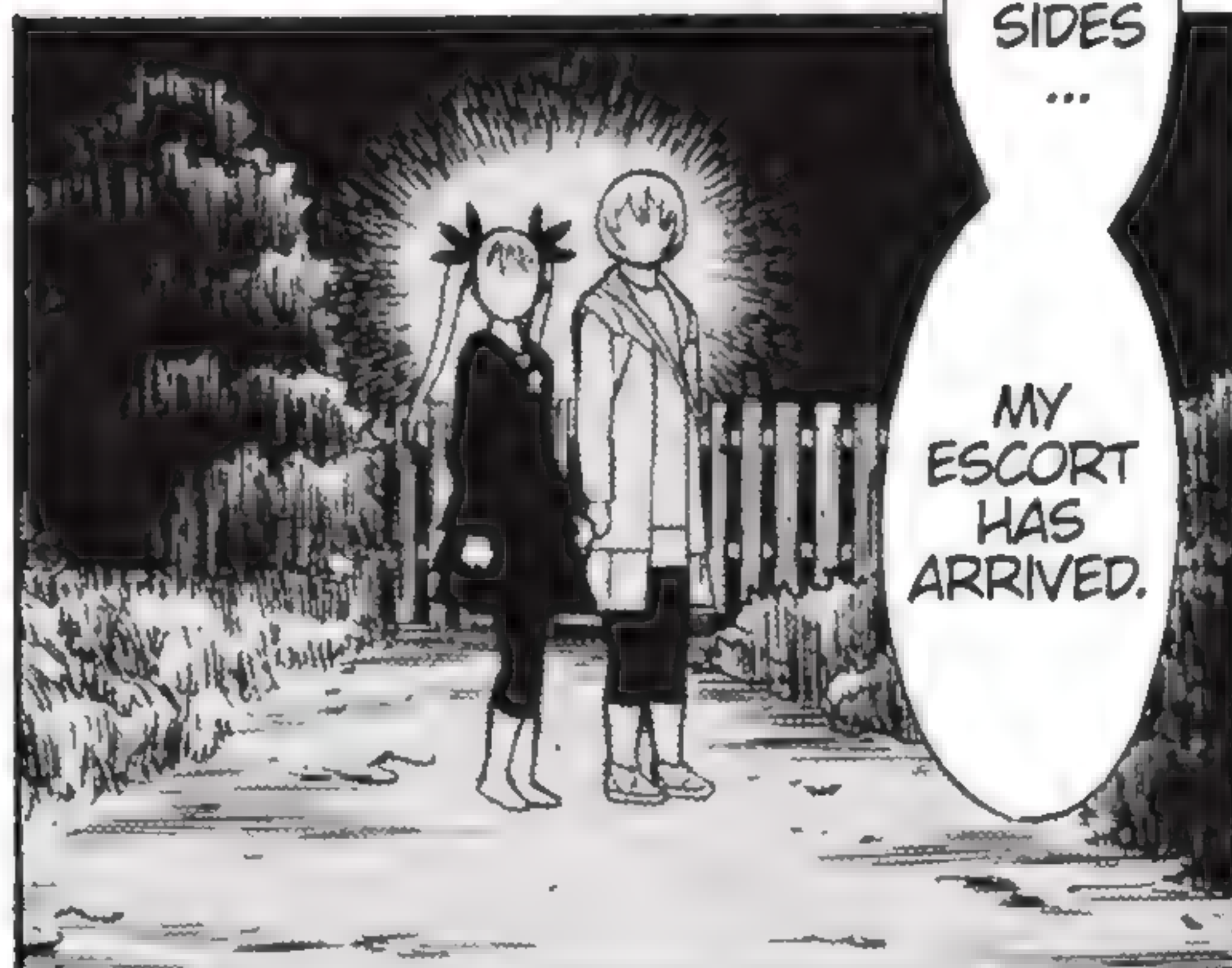


AKIRA
...!



NO...NO.
THIS IS
ENOUGH.

C-COME
ON.
LET'S
GO
KNOCK
ON THE
DOOR.



BE-
SIDES
...

MY
ESCORT
HAS
ARRIVED.



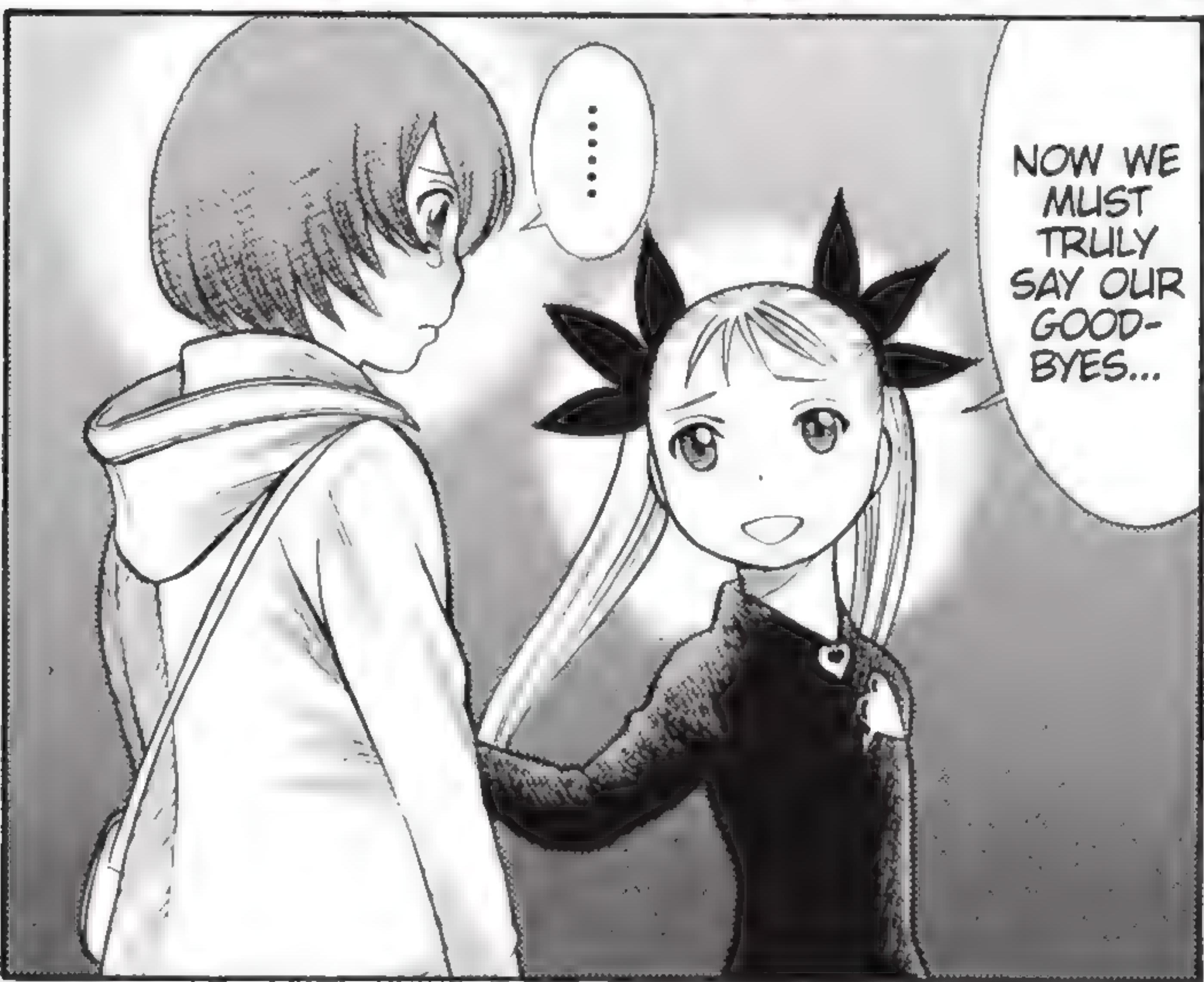
HE IS
MY
HOPE...

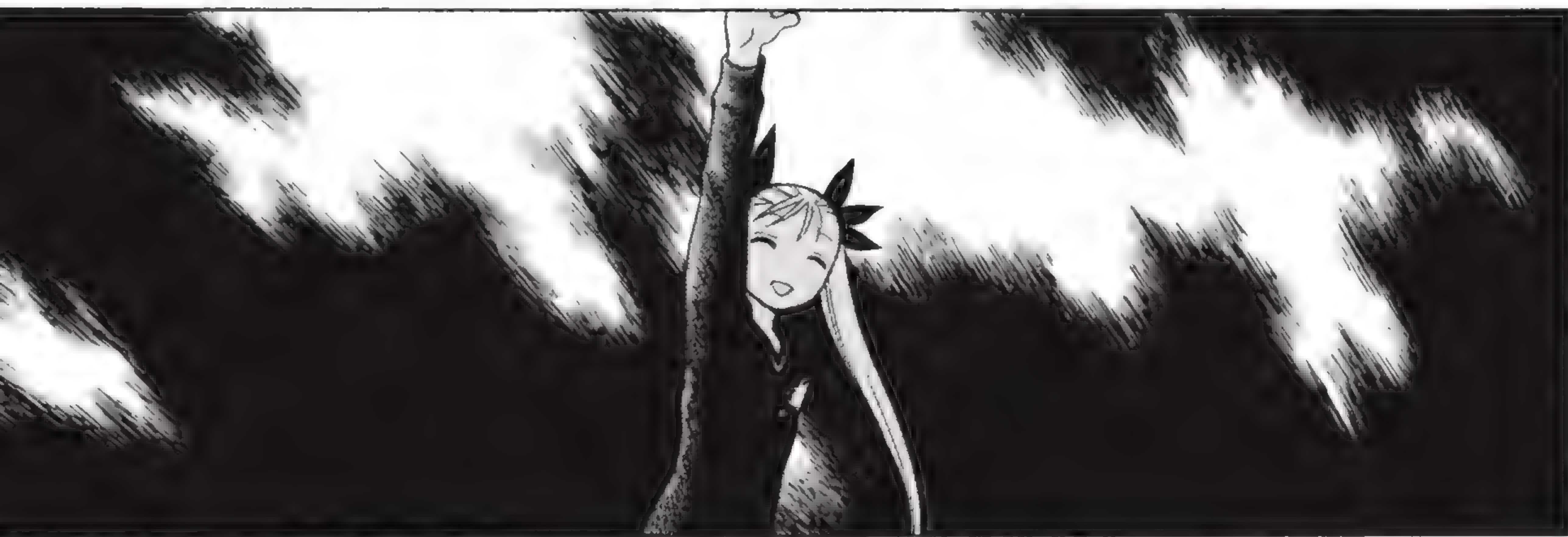
MY ONE,
PRECIOUS
PERSON.



YES
...

THAT
DARLING,
LITTLE
BABY.





AFTER
THAT
NIGHT...

I NEVER
SAW THAT
STRANGE,
BEAUTIFUL
GIRL
AGAIN.

ソタナベ
デザイン社

WATANABE DESIGN

Watanabe S

センタービル

TAKA-
FLUMI-
KUN!
WE
GOT
IT!

WE GOT
THE JOB
FOR
NAKANOYA
GROCERY'S
UPCOMING
SALE AD!!

THAT'S
INCREDIBLE!
WHICH
CORPORATION
IS IT?
OR IS IT
GOVERN-
MENT?

WOW,
A TINY,
LITTLE
BUSINESS
LIKE US,
LIKE US,
GOING
GLOBAL!

YOU'RE
NOT
GOING
TO
BELIEVE
THIS!

THEY'RE HUGE!
ENORMOUS!
AND THEY CAME
LOOKING
SPECIFICALLY
FOR US TO DO
A PAMPHLET
THEY'RE GOING
TO HAND OUT AT
A WORLD-WIDE
PRESS
CONFERENCE!!

NEITHER!
LOOK!

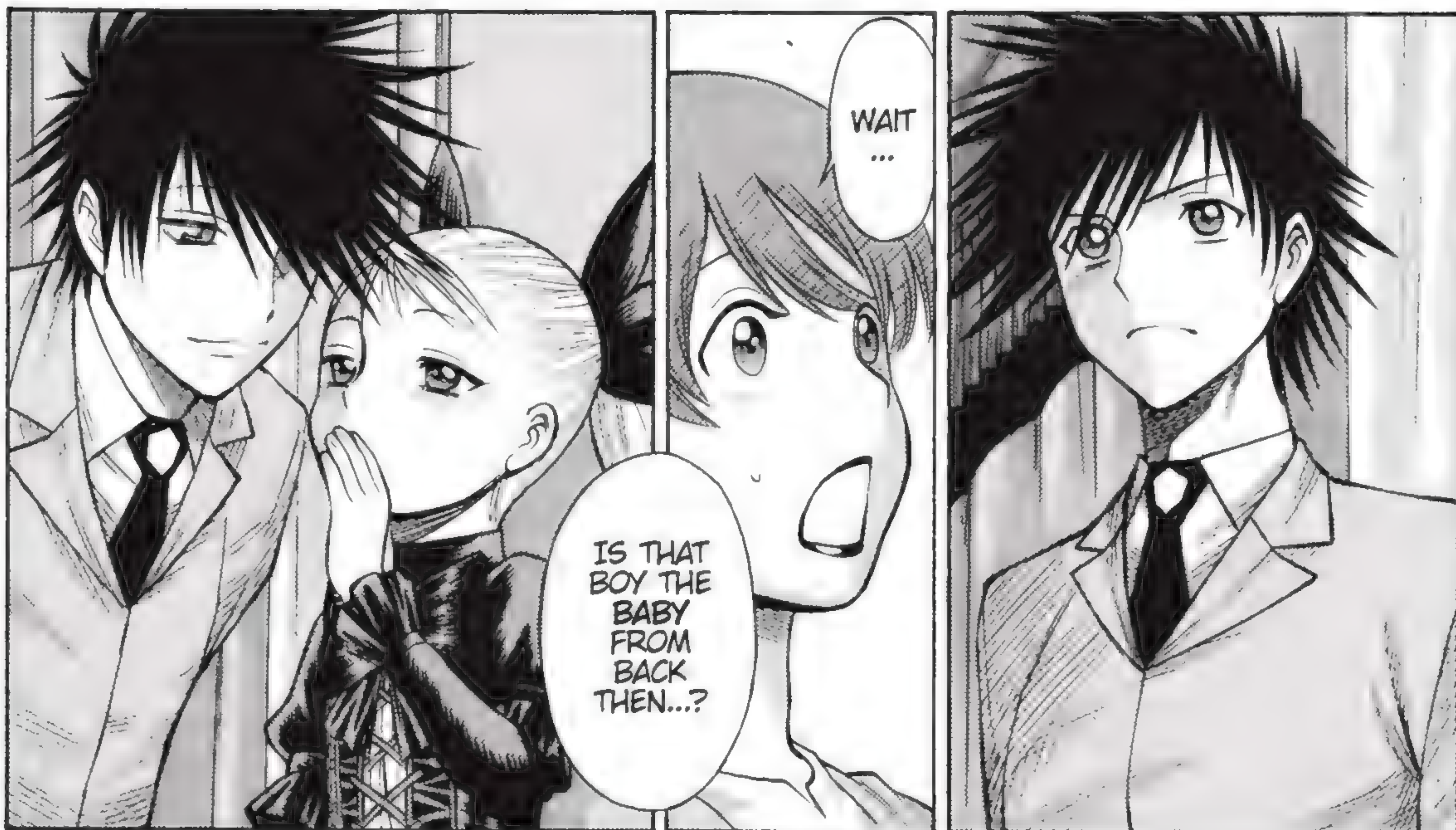
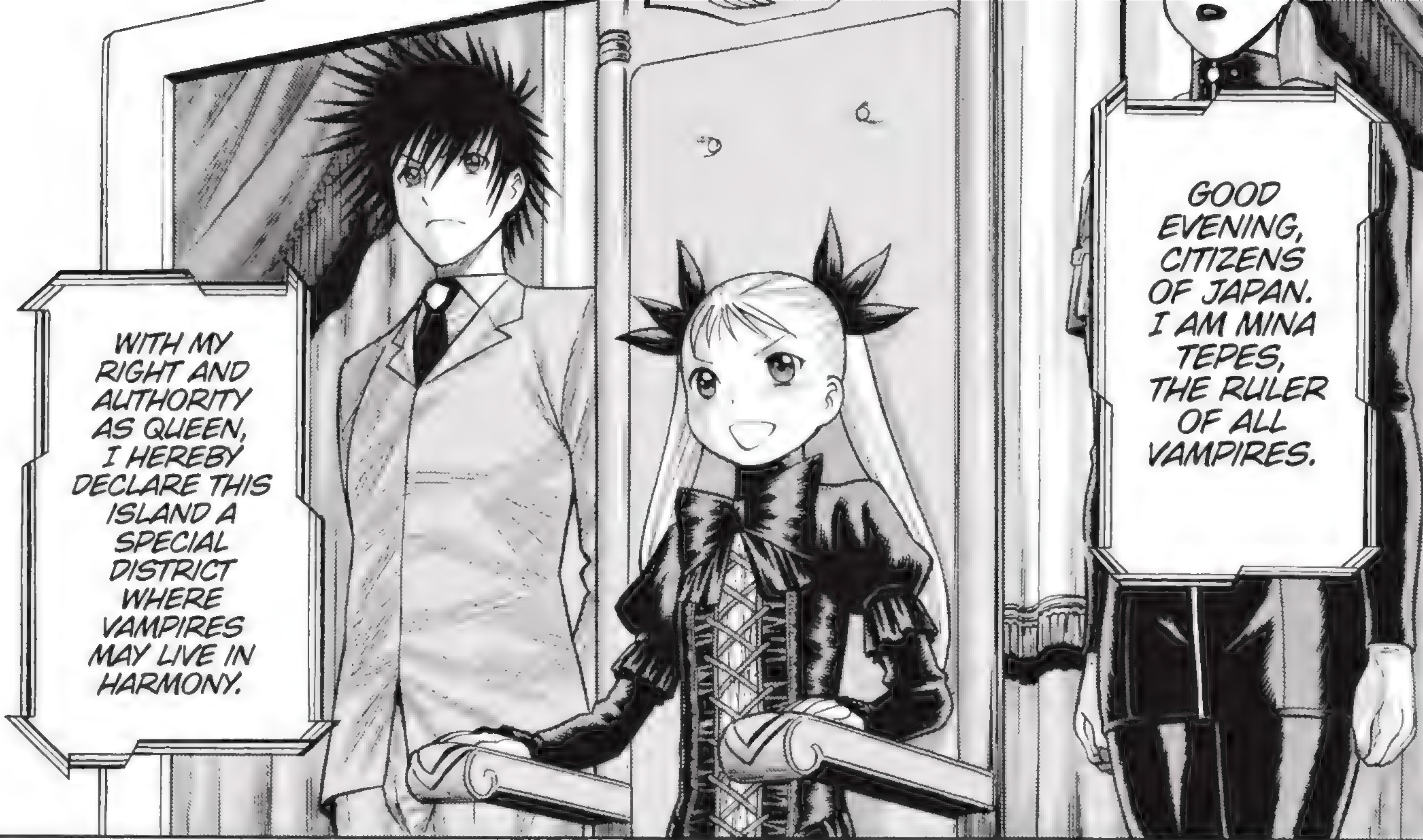
I-IF YOU
ARE ALL
RIGHT
WITH A
TINY, LITTLE
COMPANY
LIKE US,
WE'D BE
GLAD
TO!!

O-OF
COURSE
!

A NEW
CUS-
TOMER
WITH AN
ORDER?

AT
THIS
TIME OF
NIGHT?
HOW
UNUSU-
AL.

K-GUN





Dance In The Vampire Blood

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 12



THIS IS A
DIRECT
ORDER
FROM THE
QUEEN,
MINA
TEPES
HERSELF
!!

ALL
CITIZENS
OF THE
BLIND!
YOU ARE
HEREBY
ORDERED
TO FIND
AND
CAPTURE
AKIRA!!

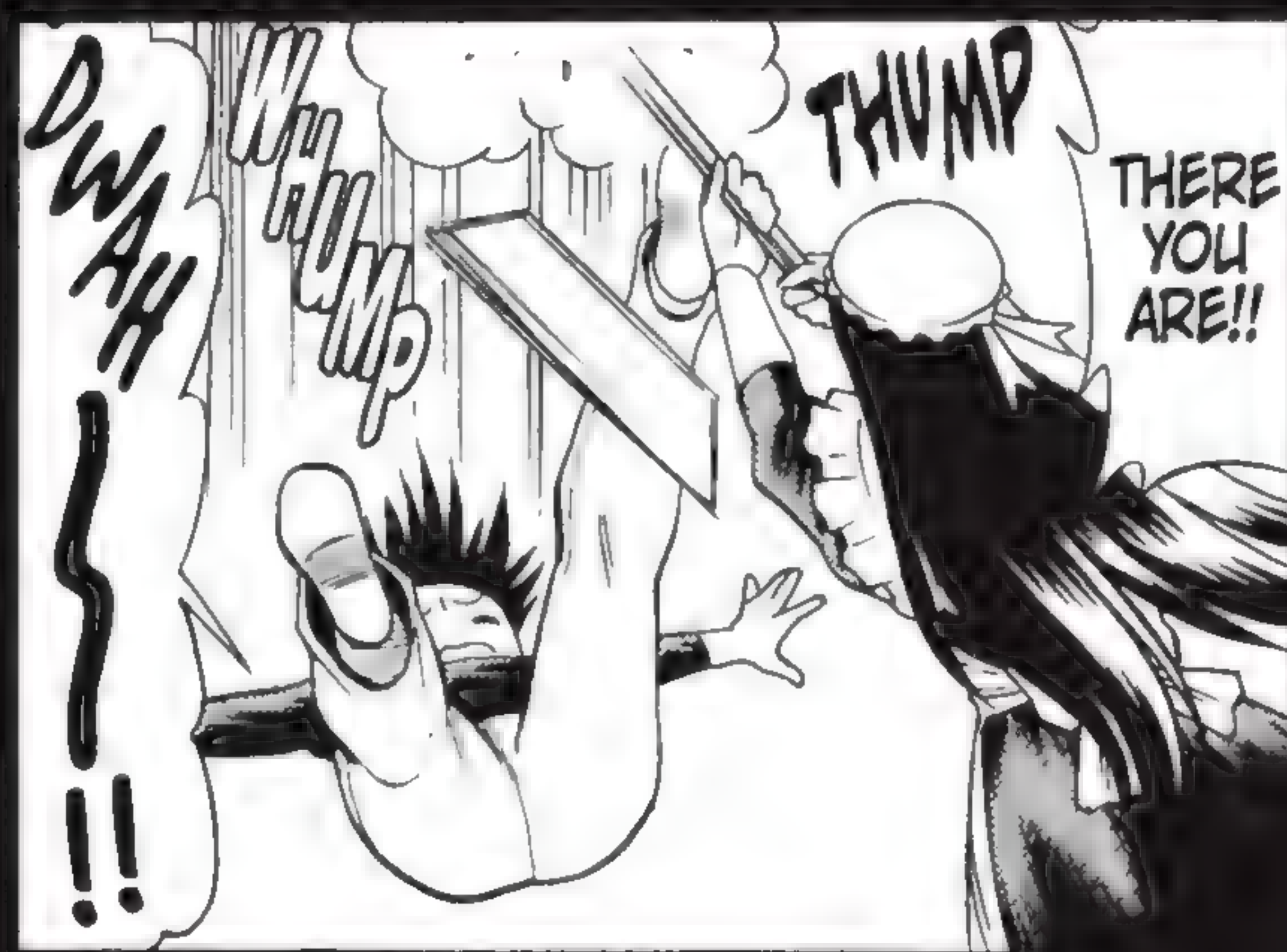


I DON'T
KNOW!
I'M AS
CON-
FUSED
AS YOU
ARE.

WHAT'S
GOING ON?
WHAT
DID THEY
MEAN, HER
MAJESTY
IS REALLY
SOMEBODY
ELSE
ENTIRELY?!



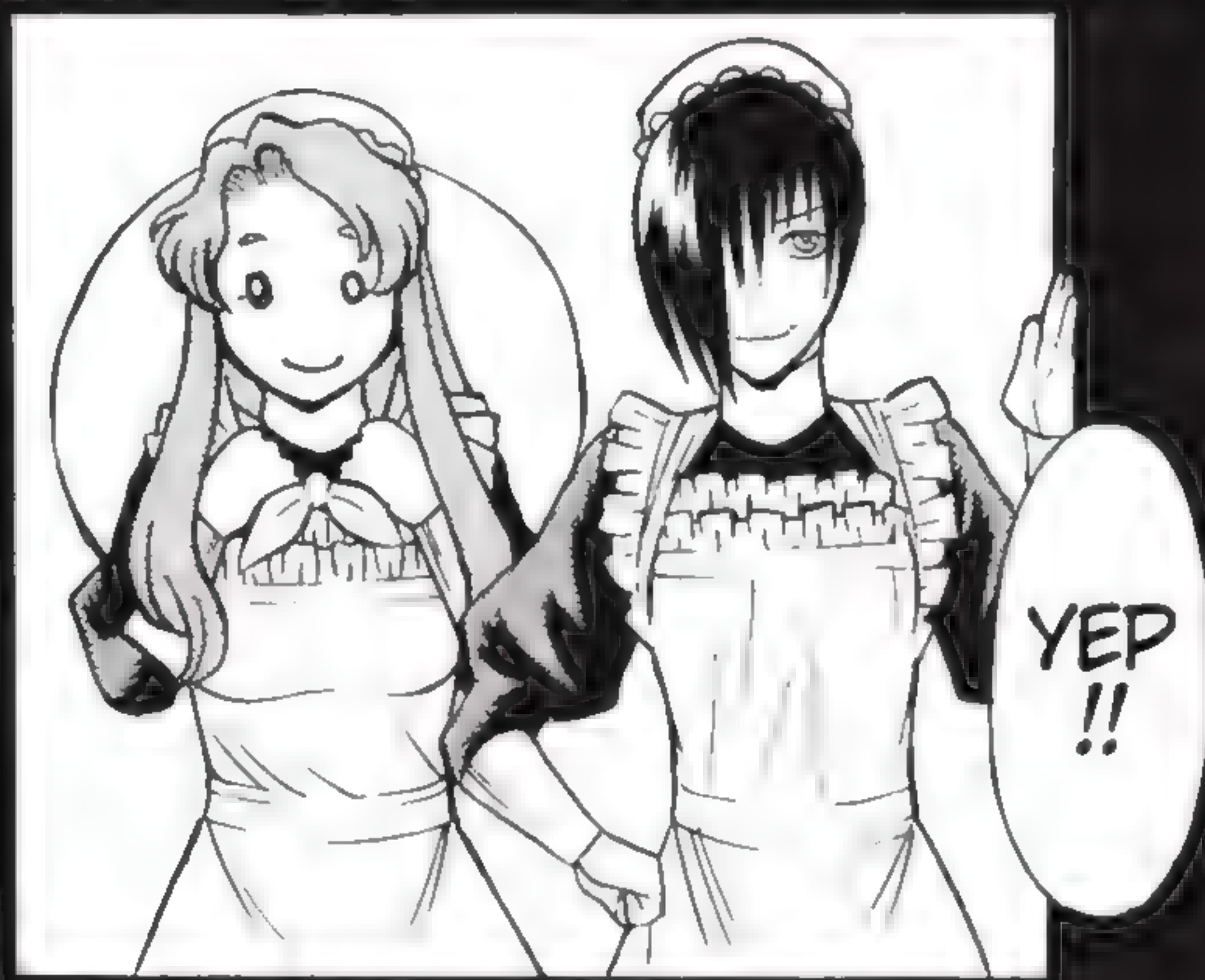
WE CAN
THINK IT
OVER
LATER.
NOW,
WE HAVE
ORDERS
...

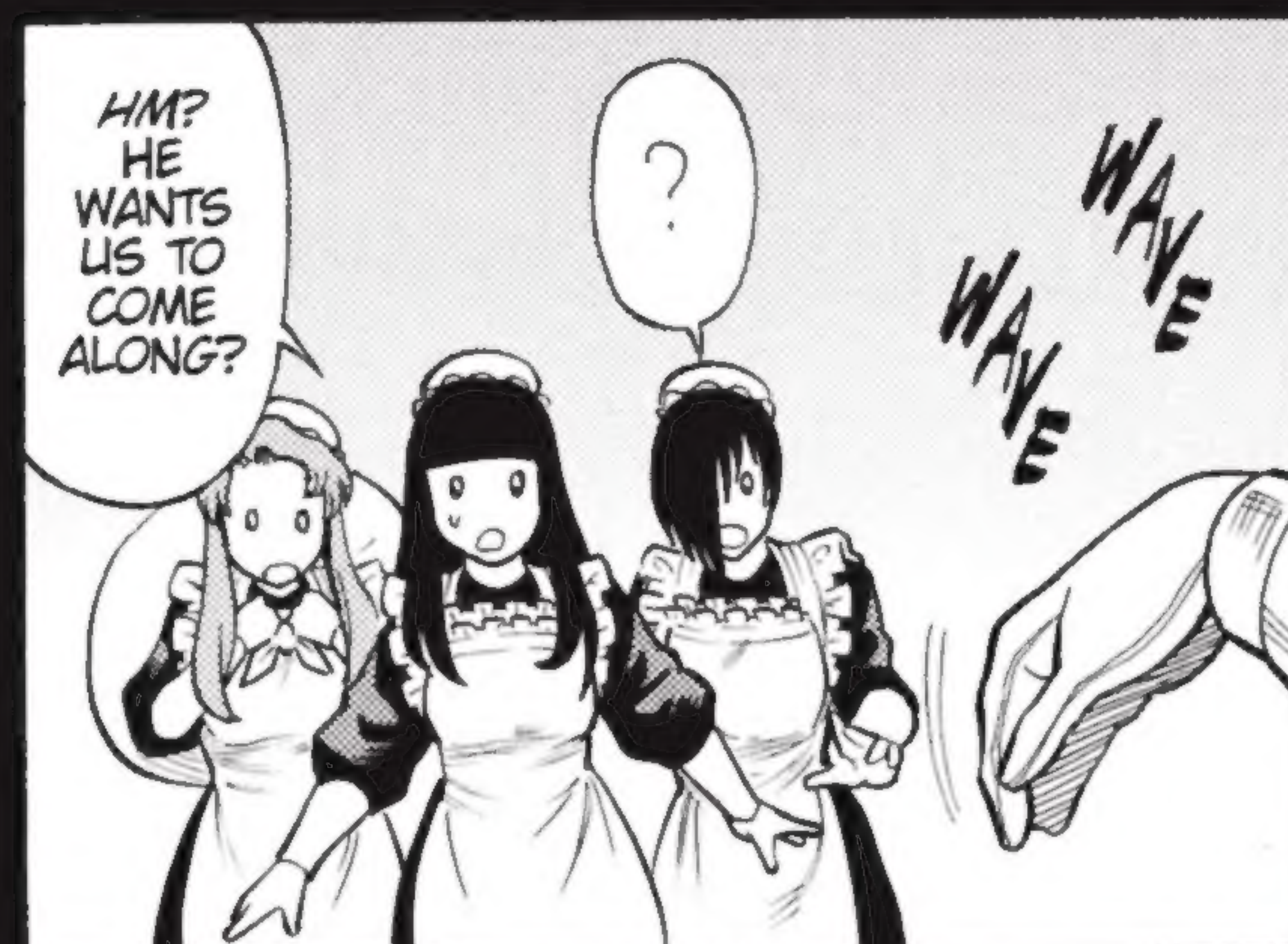
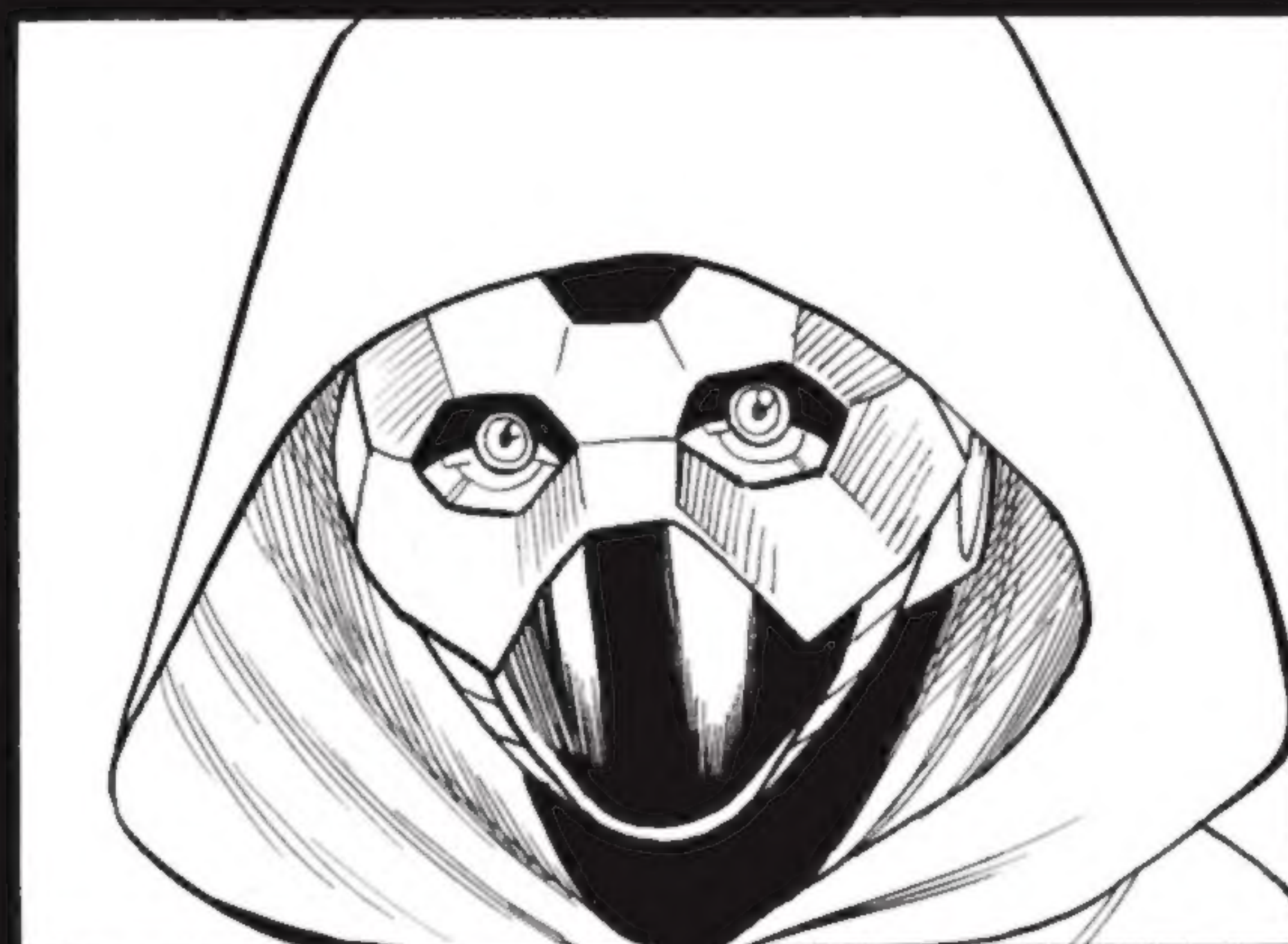
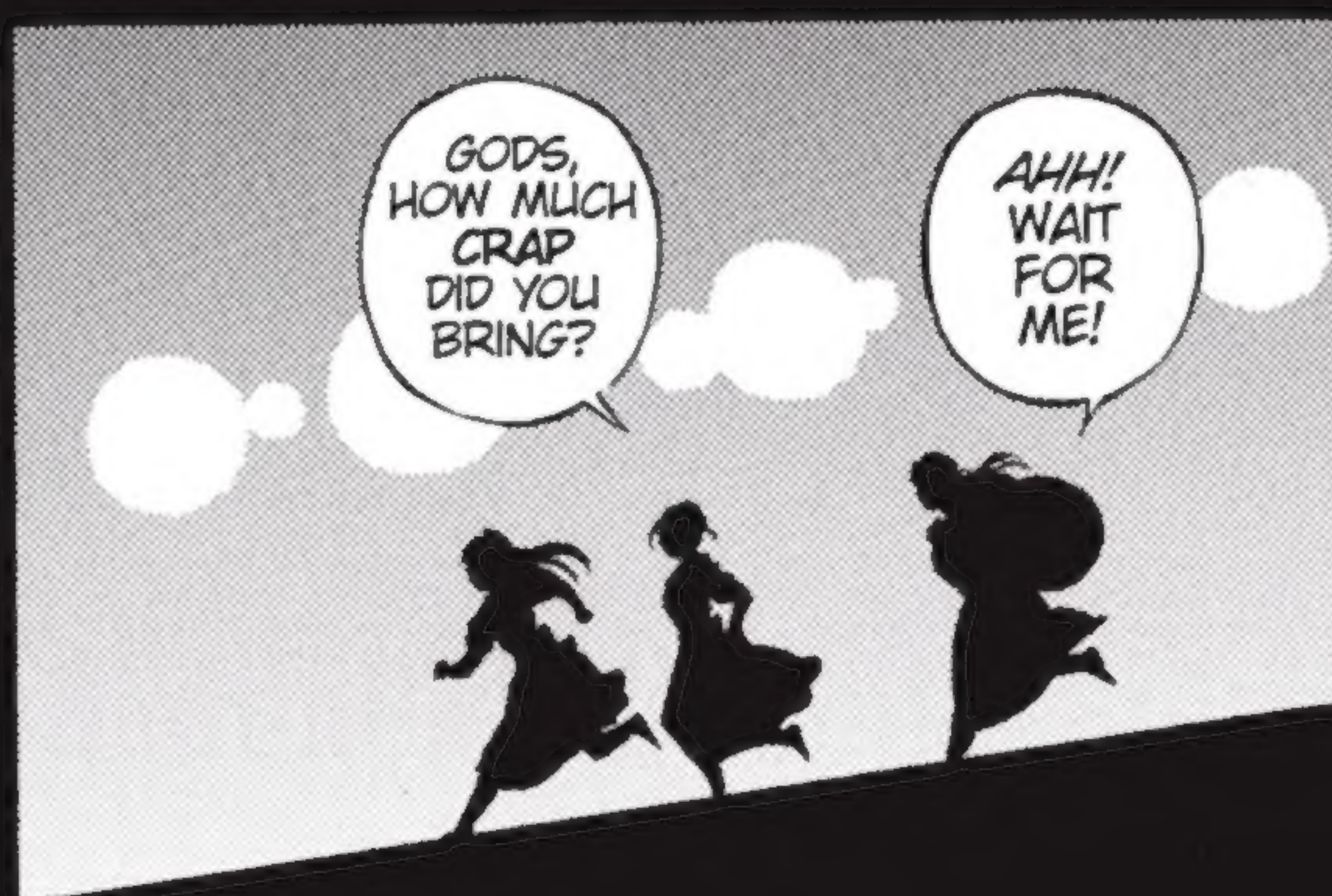
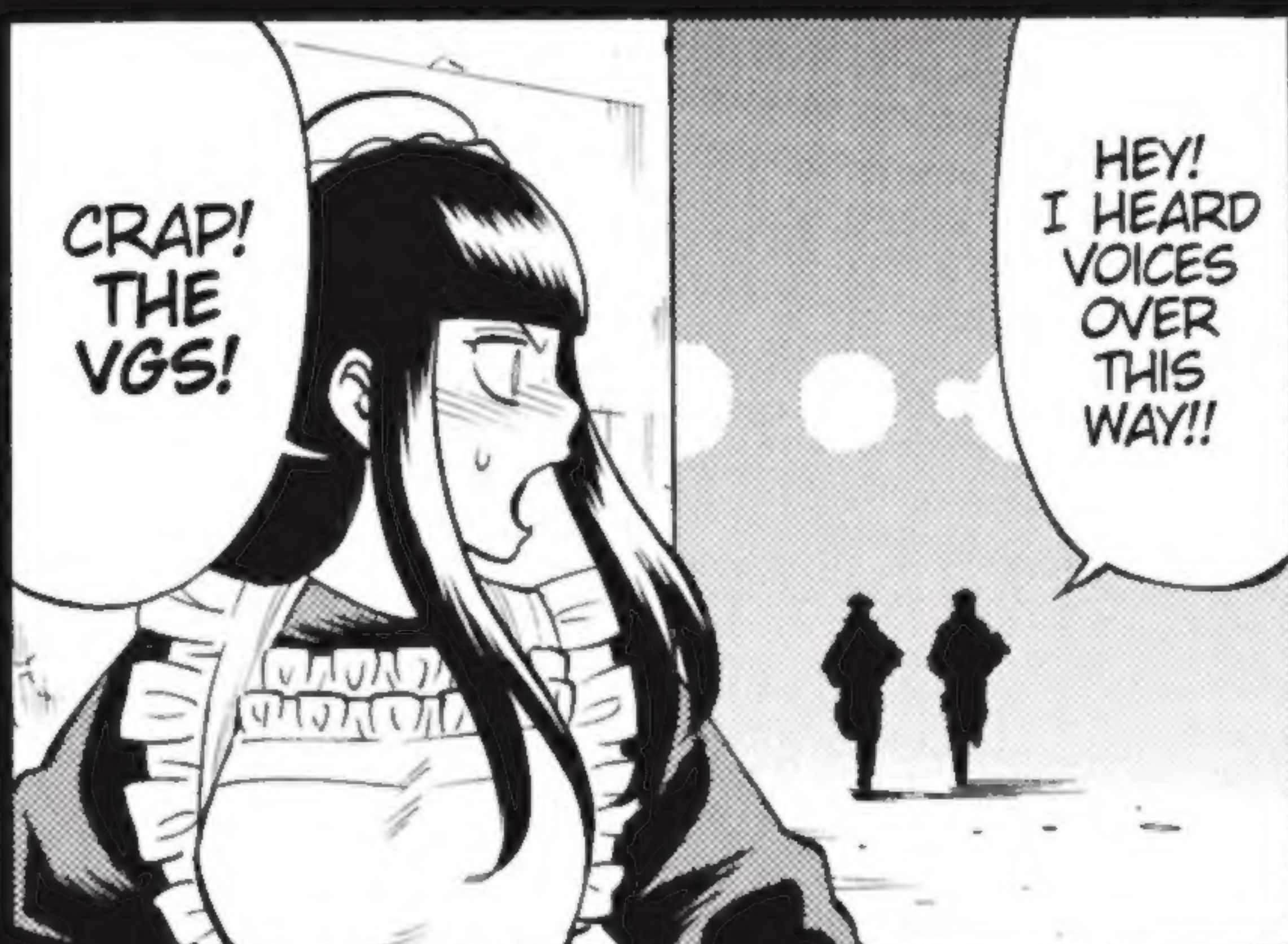


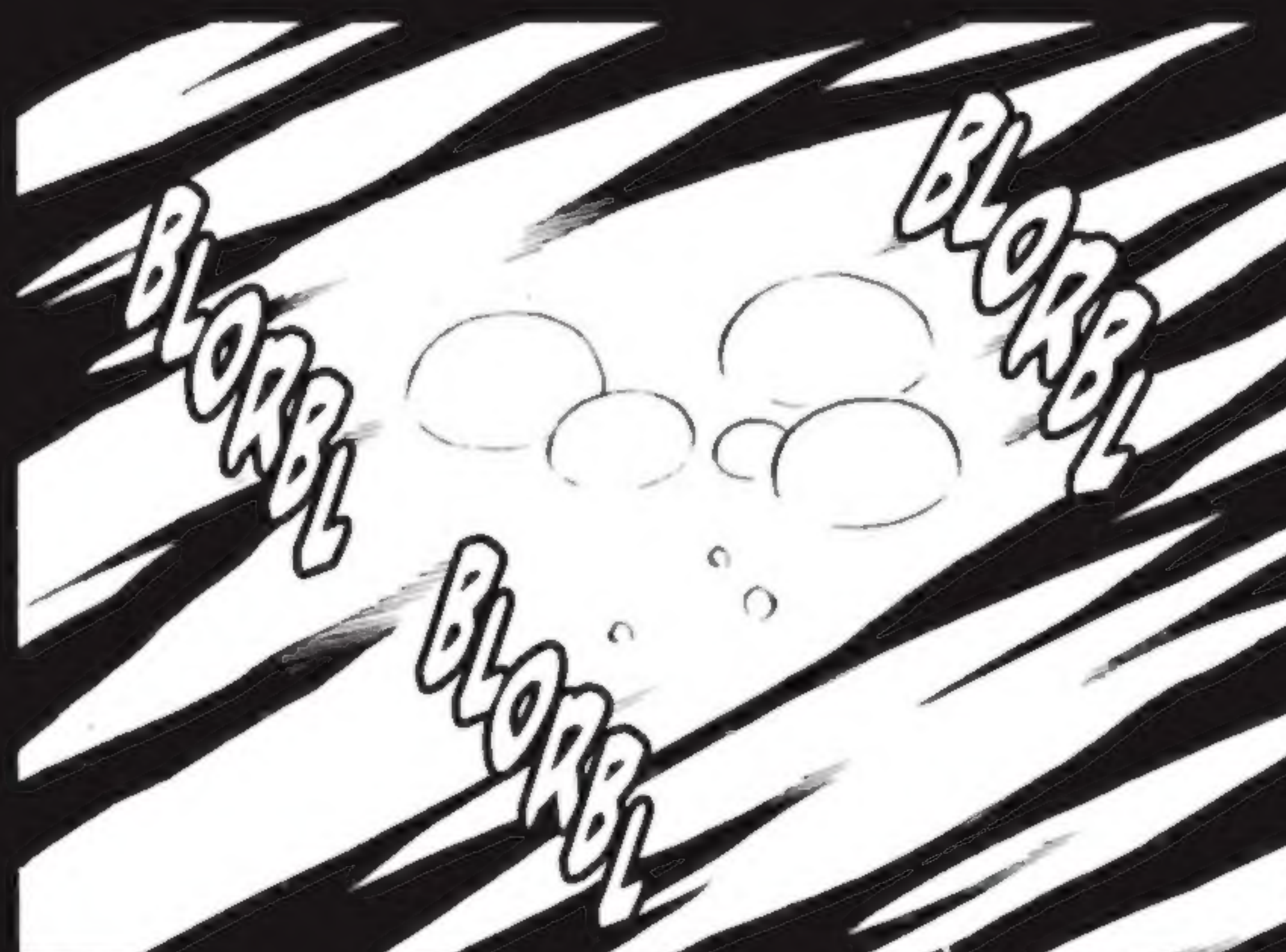
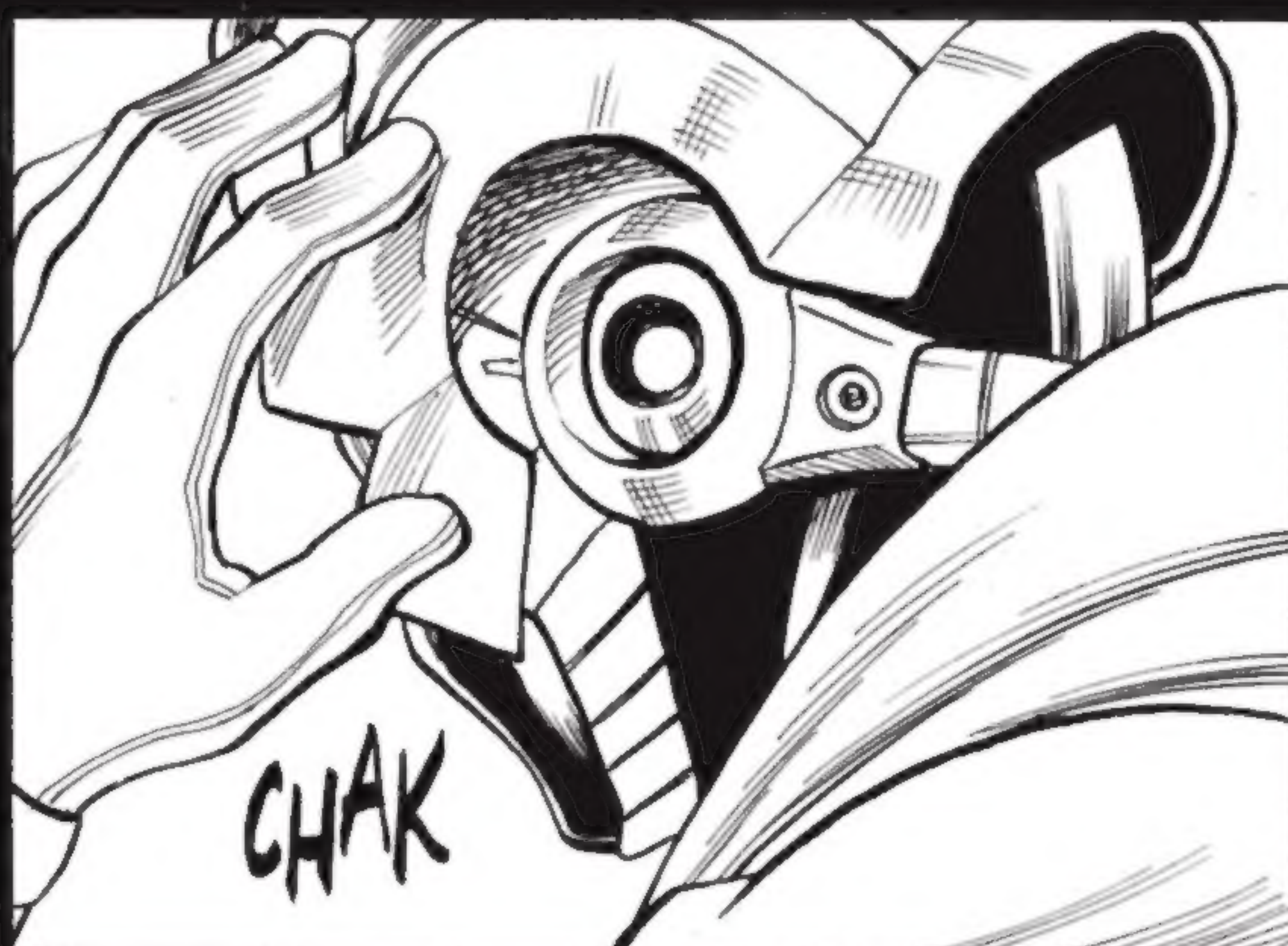
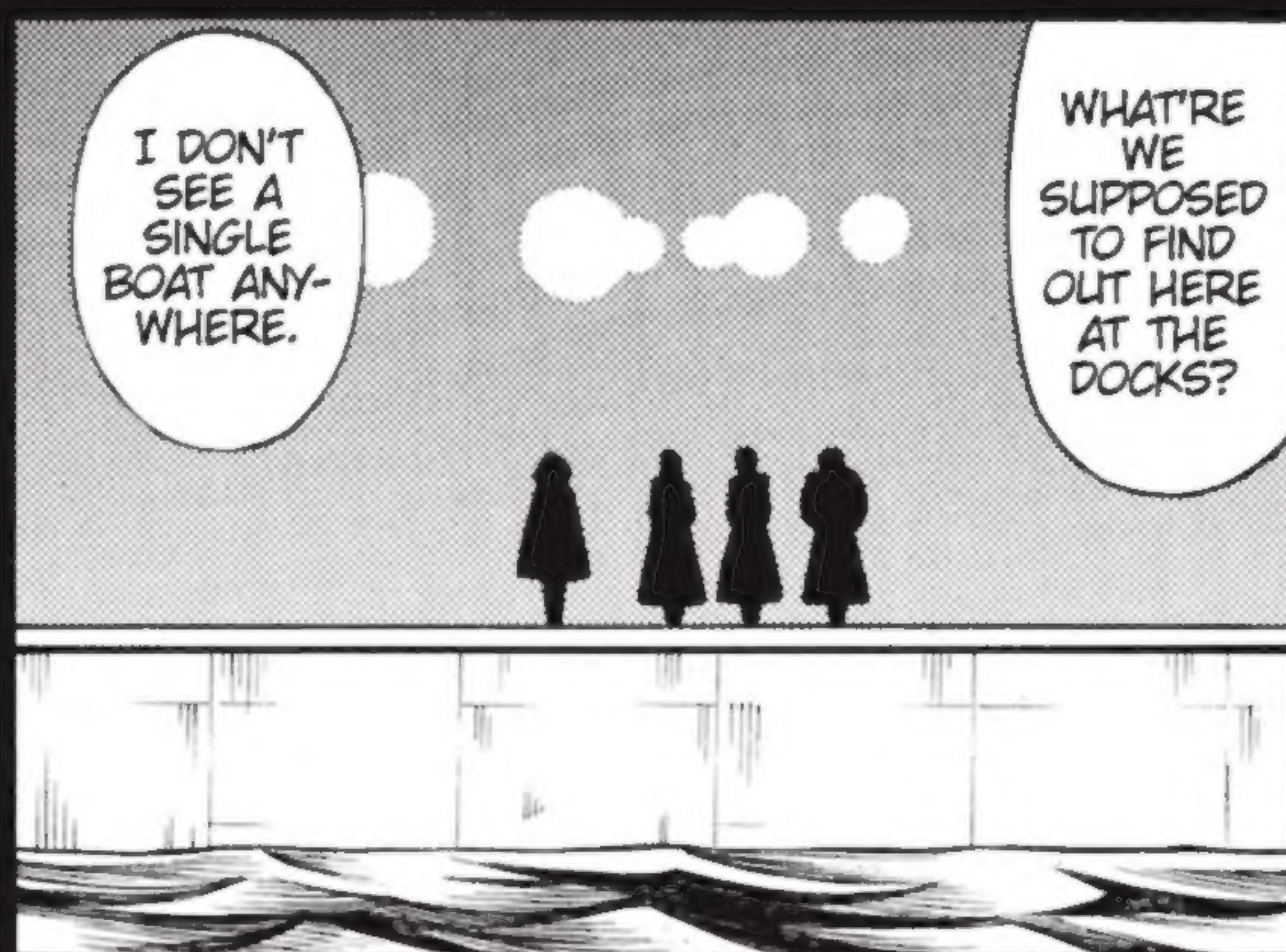
THERE
YOU
ARE!!

DANCE with the VAMPIRE MAID

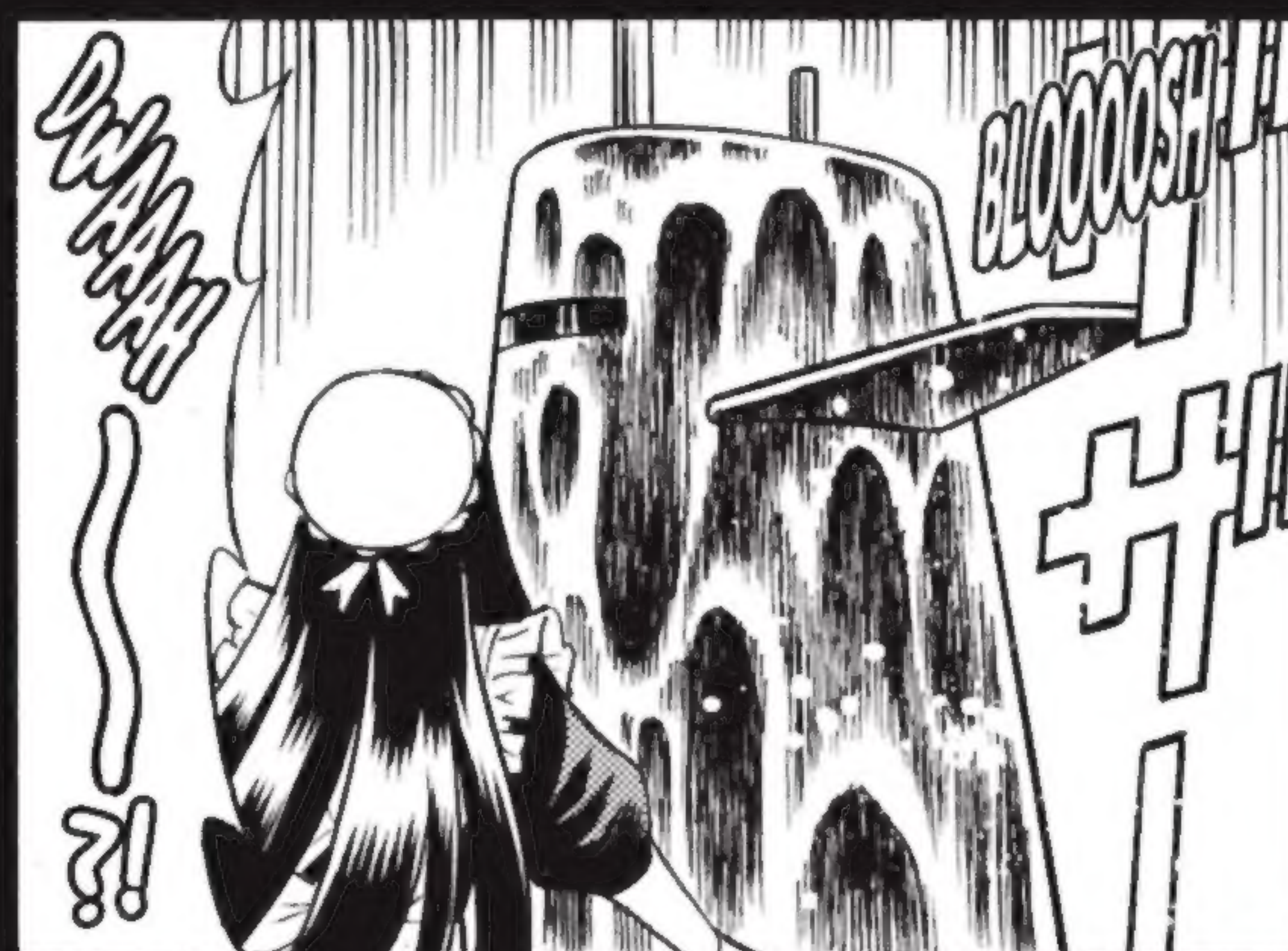
AKIRA'S REBELLION







TO BE CONTINUED, NEXT VOLUME!!



Dance in the Vampire Bund

VOLUME 11



story &
art by **Nozomu Tamaki**

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DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND VOL. 11

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This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style.
If this is your first time reading manga, you start
reading from the top right panel on each page and
take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the
numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards
at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



